FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN, TWO EARTH PEOPLE MAROONED ON THE PLANET "MONGO" ARE SEPARATED BY THE PLANET'S RULER, "MING, THE MERCILESS" WHO WANTS TO MARRY DALE. FLASH MAKES A FRIEND OF THUN, PRINCE OF LIONMEN. WHILE FLASH IS BATTLING THE GREEN SHARKMEN IN A MYSTERIOUS CITY UNDER THE SEA, THUN RESCUES DALE. BUT THEY ARE CAPTURED BY MING'S SOLDIERS. FLASH ARRIVES AT DALE'S PRISON ONLY TO FIND THE WALL (AS SMASHED BY THUN) AND DALE IS GONE. STUMBLING ALONG THE SEA BOTTOM FLASH MEETS AURA, DAUGHTER OF "MING, THE MERCILESS," WHO LEADS HIM OUT OF THE SEA TO SAFETY. THE CITY OF SHARKMEN, RISING FROM THE SEA BED TO THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN IS MYSTERIOUSLY BLOWN TO DUST BEFORE THEIR EYES ...
SPEAK, SHARKMAN! TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SON, PRINCE THUN, AND HIS FRIEND, FLASH GORDON, OR LOSE YOUR CRAVEN HEAD!
YOUR SON AND DALE ARDEN WERE CAPTURED BY THE SOLDIERS OF MING, THE MERCILESS ...I DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO FLASH GORDON
THERE! THE CITY OF SHARK MEN APPEARS ON THE TOP OF YONDER MOUNTAIN ... BLOW IT INTO ATOMS!
AS YOU COMMAND, SIRE ...MAKE READY, MEN....
LOOK! LOOK, AURA! THE LION MEN ARE COMING TO RESCUE THUN AND DALE
AN EXPLOSION! FLASH AND AURA STAND IN AWED SILENCE AS THE FLAMES CONSUME WHAT REMAINS OF THE CITY OF SHARK MEN! ..... SUDDENLY ....
YES, BUT LOOK AT, WHAT MY FATHERS SOLDIERS ARE DOING.. A MAGNETIC LIGHT BEAM!
SO THAT'S THEIR GAME, IS IT?
A LONG FINGER OF LIGHT COMBS THE SKY, SEEKING THE RANGE OF THE APPROACHING SPACE GYROS..
FLASH! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M GOING TO CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THIS MOUNTAIN AND TRY TO WARN THOSE FELLOWS
AS FLASH SHOUTS AND WAVES HIS ARMS TO WARN THE LION MEN AURA CREEPS UP BEHIND HIM... SHE BRINGS HER SWORD HILT CRASHING DOWN ON HIS HEAD!
I LOVE YOU! DALE ARDEN MUST NOT BE RESCUED.... SHE MUST MARRY MY FATHER, THE EMPEROR... YOU BELONG TO ME, ONLY ME!
THE SPACE GYROS ARE CAUGHT AND HELD BY THE MAGNETIC LIGHT BEAM. THEY ARE DRAWN WITHIN RANGE OF POWERFUL HEAT RAYS WHICH MELT THE SHIPS AND SEND THEIR OCCUPANTS TO A HORRIBLE DEATH!
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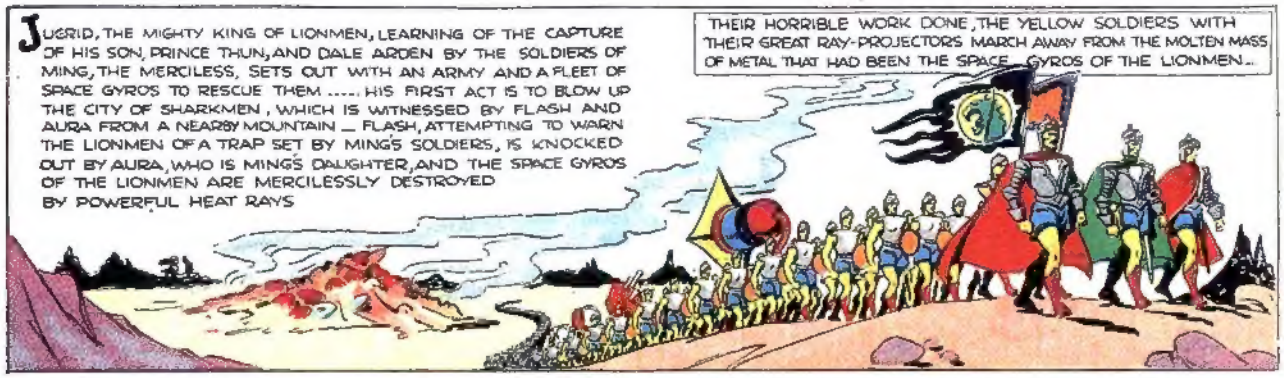
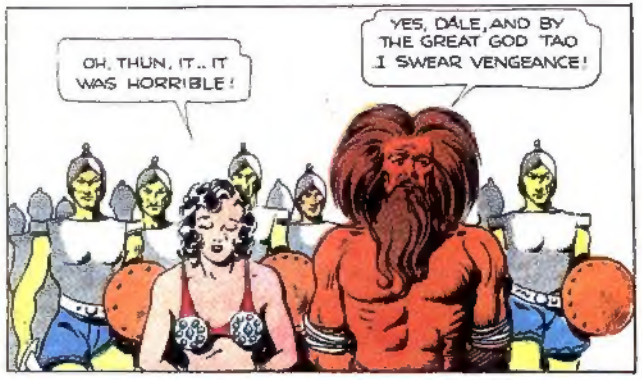
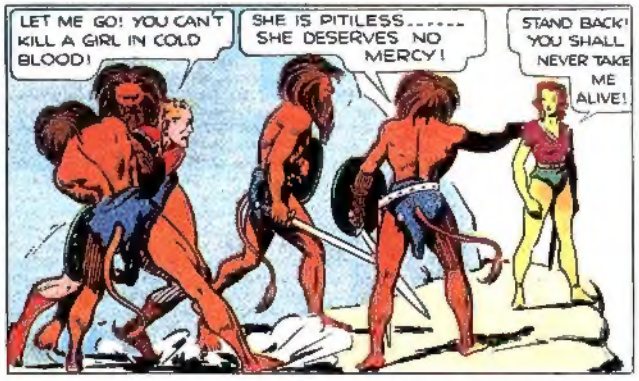
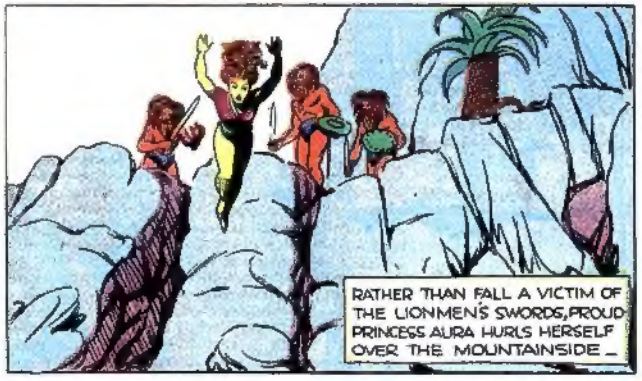
HA-HA.. GOOD! MAYBE THAT WILL TEACH THE STUPID BARBARIANS TO STAY IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY!
4-15
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND

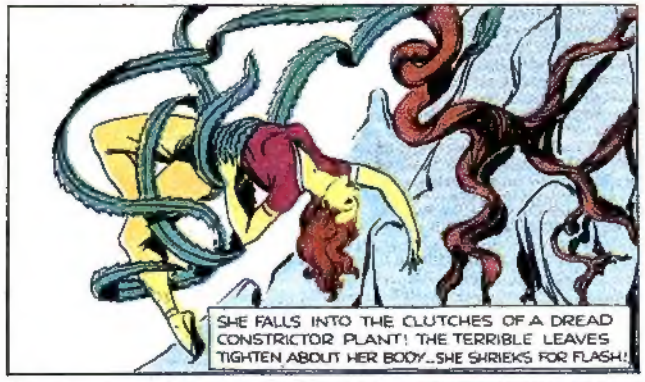

JUGRID, THE MIGHTY KING OF LIONMEN, LEARNING OF THE CAPTURE OF HIS SON, PRINCE THUN, AND DALE ARDEN BY THE SOLDIERS OF MING, THE MERCILESS, SETS OUT WITH AN ARMY AND A FLEET OF SPACE GYROS TO RESCUE THEM ..... HIS FIRST ACT IS TO BLOW UP THE CITY OF SHARKMEN, WHICH IS WITNESSED BY FLASH AND AURA FROM A NEARBY MOUNTAIN — FLASH, ATTEMPTING TO WARN THE LIONMEN OF A TRAP SET BY MING'S SOLDIERS, IS KNOCKED OUT BY AURA, WHO IS MING'S DAUGHTER, AND THE SPACE GYROS OF THE LIONMEN ARE MERCILESSLY DESTROYED BY POWERFUL HEAT RAYS
THEIR HORRIBLE WORK DONE, THE YELLOW SOLDIERS WITH THEIR GREAT RAY-PROJECTORS MARCH AWAY FROM THE MOLTEN MASS OF METAL THAT HAD BEEN THE SPACE GYROS OF THE LIONMEN..

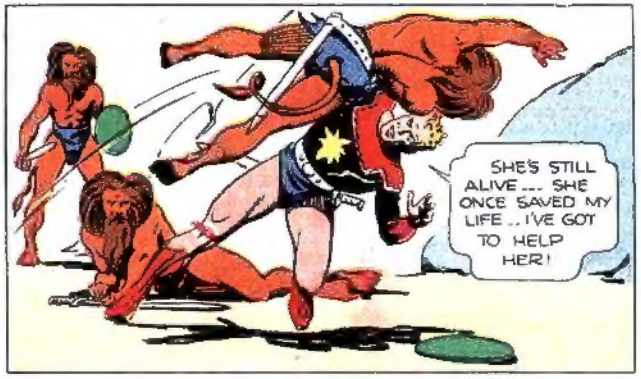

OH, THUN, IT.. IT WAS HORRIBLE!
YES, DALE, AND BY THE GREAT GOD TAO I SWEAR VENGEANCE!

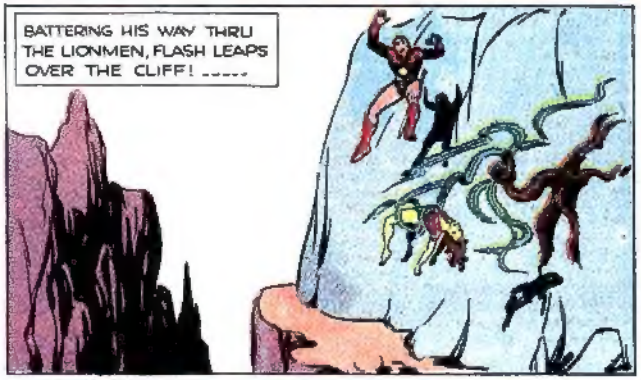
MEANWHILE AURA REVIVES FLASH WHOM SHE HAD KNOCKED OUT WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO WARN THE LIONMEN OF THEIR DANGER
W--WHAT HAPPENED?


LET ME GO! YOU CAN'T KILL A GIRL IN COLD BLOOD!
SHE IS PITILESS..... SHE DESERVES NO MERCY!
STAND BACK! YOU SHALL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE!


RATHER THAN FALL A VICTIM OF THE LIONMEN'S SWORDS, PROUD PRINCESS AURA HURLS HERSELF OVER THE MOUNTAINSIDE —


SHE FALLS INTO THE CLUTCHES OF A DREAD CONSTRICTOR PLANT! THE TERRIBLE LEAVES TIGHTEN ABOUT HER BODY..SHE SHRIEKS FOR FLASH!


SHE'S STILL ALIVE ... SHE ONCE SAVED MY LIFE .. I'VE GOT TO HELP HER!


BATTERING HIS WAY THRU THE LIONMEN, FLASH LEAPS OVER THE CLIFF! .....

LANDING SAFELY ON A LEDGE HE MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD THE DREAD PLANT AND IT'S VICTIM

A COUPLE OF GOOD BLOWS WILL FREE HER...I HOPE I'M IN TIME!
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ALEX RAYMOND
TO BE CONTINUED-
AS FLASH'S SWORD BITES INTO THE LEAF HOLDING AURA, THE WHOLE PLANT SHUDDERS AND SPRINGS TO LIFE, ENFOLDING FLASH AGAIN AND AGAIN WITH IT'S CRUSHING, GRINDING LEAVES!

THE LIONMEN ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE DALE AND THUN ARE RUTHLESSLY DESTROYED BY MINGS SOLDIERS. WHILE AURA GLOATS OVER THE SCENE SHE IS TRAPPED BY A SURVIVING PARTY OF LIONMEN. RATHER THAN DIE AT THEIR HANDS SHE HURLS HERSELF OVER A CLIFF INTO A DREAD CONSTRICTOR PLANT - FLASH, IN ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE HER, IS ALSO ENTRAPPED!
AS FLASH AND AURA ARE HELD PRISONERS BY THE DREAD CONSTRICTOR PLANT, THE LIONMEN SCRAMBLE DOWN TO THEIR RESCUE
THRU AN OPENING IN AN ADJOINING CLIFF A YELLOW SENTRY SQUINTS THRU THE SIGHTS OF AN ICE-GUN. HE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER!
FROZEN INTO STATUES OF SOLID ICE, THE LION MEN TOPPLE OVER THE MOUNTAINSIDE
A DOOR OPENS IN THE CLIFF - SIX YELLOW MEN RUSH OUT -
IT IS PRINCESS AURA AND ONE OF MINGS OFFICERS. LET THEM DIE!
SILENCE! YOU WITH THE RAY GUN, KILL THAT PLANT!
A BOLT FROM THE RAY GUN SHATTERS THE PLANT - FLASH AND AURA FALL INTO THE WAITING ARMS OF THE MEN BELOW
ANOTHER STRANGE WHITE MAN, EH? BLINDFOLD HIM AND PREPARE OUR OTHER WHITE PRISONER FOR THE ORDEAL OF THE POISON DAGGERS - TAKE PRINCESS AURA TO MY QUARTERS
AS YOU COMMAND, PRINCE BARIN
YOU SAY, YOUTH, THAT YOU ARE FROM THE EARTH. I DO NOT BELIEVE IT! OUR HIDING-PLACE MUST REMAIN A SECRET, THEREFORE, BOTH OF YOU MUST DIE! A SCRATCH FROM THESE KNIVES MEANS CERTAIN DEATH!
THE KNIVES HAVE BEEN DIPPED IN DRAGONS BLOOD AND ARE READY, SIRE!
THE LEFT FOREARMS OF THE TWO WHITE MEN ARE BOUND TOGETHER, LEAVING THEIR RIGHT ARMS FREE FOR ACTION -
STEPPING BACK, FLASH JERKS HIS ANTAGONIST OFF BALANCE - HE FLINGS ASIDE HIS KNIFE!
HELPLESS IN FLASH'S POWERFUL GRIP, THE MYSTERIOUS WHITE MAN DROPS HIS KNIFE!
THE LAD IS SUPERB!
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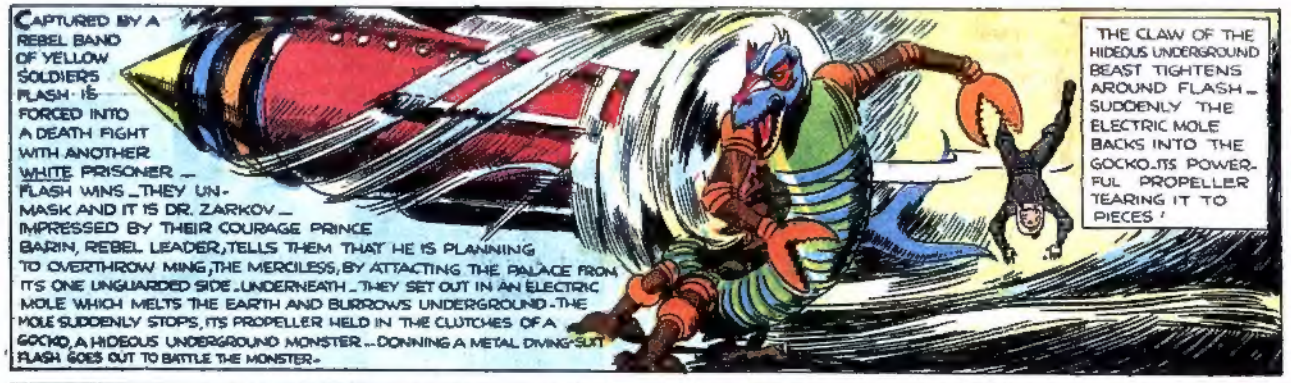
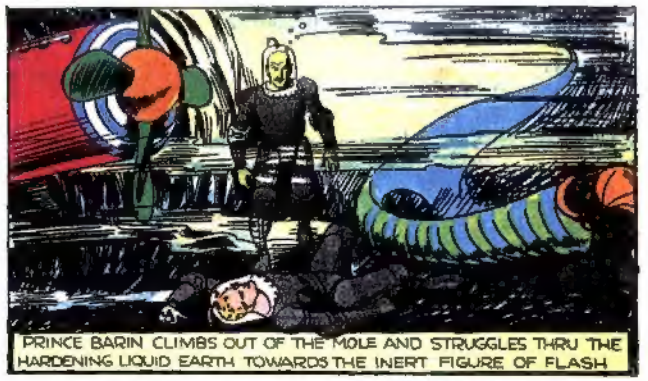
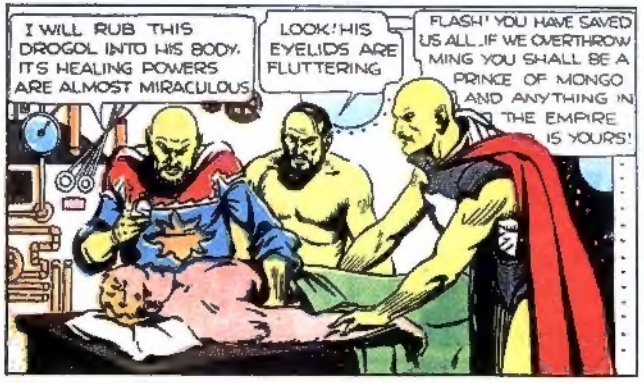
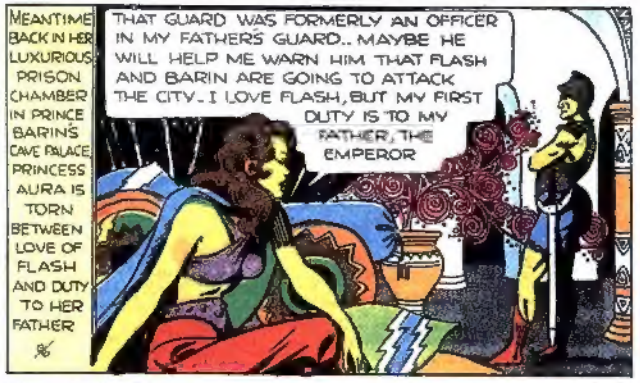
PICKING UP THE KNIFE, FLASH SEVERS THE CORDS BINDING HIM TO HIS OPPONENT
4-29
FLASH GORDON!
DR. ZARKOV!
ALEX RAYMOND
TO BE CONTINUED

RATHER THAN DIE AT THE HANDS OF THE LIONMEN PRINCESS AURA HURLS HERSELF OVER A CLIFF INTO A DREAD CONSTRICTOR PLANT... FLASH, IN ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE HER, IS ALSO ENTRAPPED.. A DOOR OPENS IN THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF AND THEY ARE RESCUED BY A PARTY OF REBEL YELLOW SOLDIERS ... PRINCE BARIN THEIR LEADER, ORDERS THAT FLASH AND ANOTHER WHITE MAN, PREVIOUSLY CAPTURED BY THEM BE BLINDFOLDED AND FIGHT TO THE DEATH WITH POISONED KNIVES.. FLASH WINS, BUT SAVES THE LIFE OF HIS ANTAGONIST.... THEY UNMASK .. IT IS DR ZARKOV!
DR ZARKOV! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW GLAD I AM TO SEE YOU! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD AFTER OUR ROCKET CRASHED ON THIS PLANET!
I WAS BADLY HURT FLASH.. I TRIED TO DRAG MYSELF TO THE CITY IN THE DISTANCE BUT THESE FELLOWS PICKED ME UP AND BROUGHT ME HERE.. THEY MADE ME COOK FOR THEM AND ACT AS THEIR SERVANT BUT .. WELL WE SAVED THE EARTH, DIDN'T WE, LAD?
NOW MAYBE YOU'LL BELIEVE THAT WE'RE FROM THE EARTH.. THIS MAN HERE WAS THE MOST BRILLIANT SCIENTIST IN THE WORLD .. HE
ENOUGH .. MY ADMIRATION FOR BOTH OF YOU IS BOUNDLESS.. I WOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU SHAKE MY HAND AND CALL ME: YOUR FRIEND!
MY FRIENDS.. I HAVE INVENTED AN ELECTRIC MOLE WITH WHICH I INTEND TO BURROW UNDERGROUND, ATTACK THE PALACE OF MING, THE MERCILESS, FROM ITS ONE UNGUARDED SIDE.. UNDERNEATH AND OVERTHROW MING AND HIS TYRANNICAL GOVERNMENT.. ARE YOU WITH ME?
YOU BET WE ARE! WE'VE GOT TO RESCUE DALE AND THUN FROM THAT FIEND!
I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID.. PLEASE LET ME GO WITH YOU. PLEASE!
YOU? IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I AM A HUNTED MAN WITH A PRICE ON MY HEAD! YOU WILL REMAIN HERE AS MY PRISONER!
AND SO THEY SET OUT ON THEIR DANGEROUS MISSION.. POWERFUL RAYS SOFTEN THE SOIL TO A LIQUID THRU WHICH A PROPELLER DRIVES THE ELECTRIC MOLE..
SUDDENLY THE MOLE STOPS! FULL POWER IS TURNED ON, BUT IT DOES NOT BUDGE ..
A GOCKO! WE ARE LOST! WE BROKE THRU THE TUNNEL OF ONE OF THE FEARFUL UNDERGROUND DRAGONS
QUICK, HELP ME ON WITH ONE OF THOSE METAL DIVING-SUITS!
ARMED WITH A RAY-GUN FLASH GOES OUT THRU A PRESSURE LOCK INTO THE LIQUID SOIL SURROUNDING THE SHIP ..
FEARLESSLY HE ADVANCES ON THE HIDEOUS BEAST.. A MIGHTY CLAW REACHES FOR HIM! HE BLASTS THE CLAW WITH HIS RAY GUN
BEFORE HE CAN FIRE AGAIN HE IS CAUGHT! THE METAL DIVING-SUIT SLOWLY CRUMPLES UNDER THE CRUSHING PRESSURE OF THE MIGHTY CLAW..
5-6
ALEX RAYMOND
TO BE CONT'D

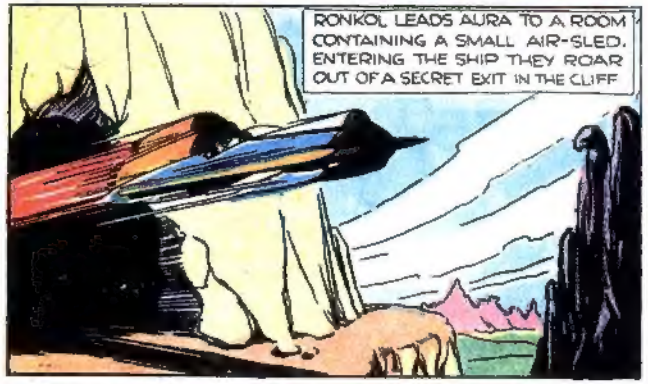

CAPTURED BY A REBEL BAND OF YELLOW SOLDIERS FLASH IS FORCED INTO A DEATH FIGHT WITH ANOTHER WHITE PRISONER — FLASH WINS _ THEY UN-MASK AND IT IS DR. ZARKOV — IMPRESSED BY THEIR COURAGE PRINCE BARIN, REBEL LEADER, TELLS THEM THAT HE IS PLANNING TO OVERTHROW MING, THE MERCILESS, BY ATTACKING THE PALACE FROM ITS ONE UNGUARDED SIDE _ UNDERNEATH _ THEY SET OUT IN AN ELECTRIC MOLE WHICH MELTS THE EARTH AND BURROWS UNDERGROUND - THE MOLE SUDDENLY STOPS, ITS PROPELLER HELD IN THE CLUTCHES OF A GOCKO, A HIDEOUS UNDERGROUND MONSTER -- DONNING A METAL DIVING-SUIT FLASH GOES OUT TO BATTLE THE MONSTER -
THE CLAW OF THE HIDEOUS UNDERGROUND BEAST TIGHTENS AROUND FLASH — SUDDENLY THE ELECTRIC MOLE BACKS INTO THE GOCKO _ ITS POWERFUL PROPELLER TEARING IT TO PIECES !

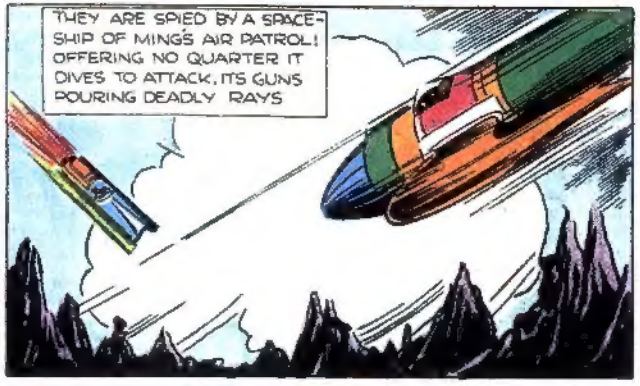

PRINCE BARIN CLIMBS OUT OF THE MOLE AND STRUGGLES THRU THE HARDENING LIQUID EARTH TOWARDS THE INERT FIGURE OF FLASH


I WILL RUB THIS DROGOL INTO HIS BODY. IT'S HEALING POWERS ARE ALMOST MIRACULOUS
LOOK! HIS EYELIDS ARE FLUTTERING
FLASH! YOU HAVE SAVED US ALL _ IF WE OVERTHROW MING YOU SHALL BE A PRINCE OF MONGO AND ANYTHING IN THE EMPIRE IS YOURS!


MEANTIME BACK IN HER LUXURIOUS PRISON CHAMBER IN PRINCE BARIN'S CAVE PALACE PRINCESS AURA IS TORN BETWEEN LOVE OF FLASH AND DUTY TO HER FATHER
THAT GUARD WAS FORMERLY AN OFFICER IN MY FATHER'S GUARD.. MAYBE HE WILL HELP ME WARN HIM THAT FLASH AND BARIN ARE GOING TO ATTACK THE CITY _ I LOVE FLASH, BUT MY FIRST DUTY IS TO MY FATHER, THE EMPEROR

RONKOL, YOU FLED INTO EXILE WHEN CAUGHT STEALING _ IF YOU HELP ME WARN MY FATHER I WILL MAKE YOU WEALTHY AND DUKE RONKOL
FOR ONE SO LOVELY, MY PRINCESS, HOW COULD I REFUSE ? COME WITH ME!


RONKOL LEADS AURA TO A ROOM CONTAINING A SMALL AIR-SLED. ENTERING THE SHIP THEY ROAR OUT OF A SECRET EXIT IN THE CLIFF


THEY ARE SPIED BY A SPACE-SHIP OF MING'S AIR PATROL! OFFERING NO QUARTER IT DIVES TO ATTACK, ITS GUNS POURING DEADLY RAYS

THE AIR-SLED CRASHES _ RONKOL IS MERCILESSLY TURNED INTO A FLAMING TORCH BY A RAY FROM THE PATROL SHIP!

AND NOW, LITTLE ONE, YOU ARE MY CAPTIVE!
STAND BACK, DOG! I AM PRINCESS AURA! ON YOUR KNEES FOR FORGIVENESS!

OH PRINCESS, I BEG YOU NOT TO TELL YOUR FATHER! HE WOULD HAVE ME TORN TO PIECES BY THE SACRED DROKS!
VERY WELL, LOWLY ONE _ IF YOU GET ME TO MY FATHER'S PALACE BEFORE FLASH AND PRINCE BARIN - I WILL FORGET THE INCIDENT!
5-13
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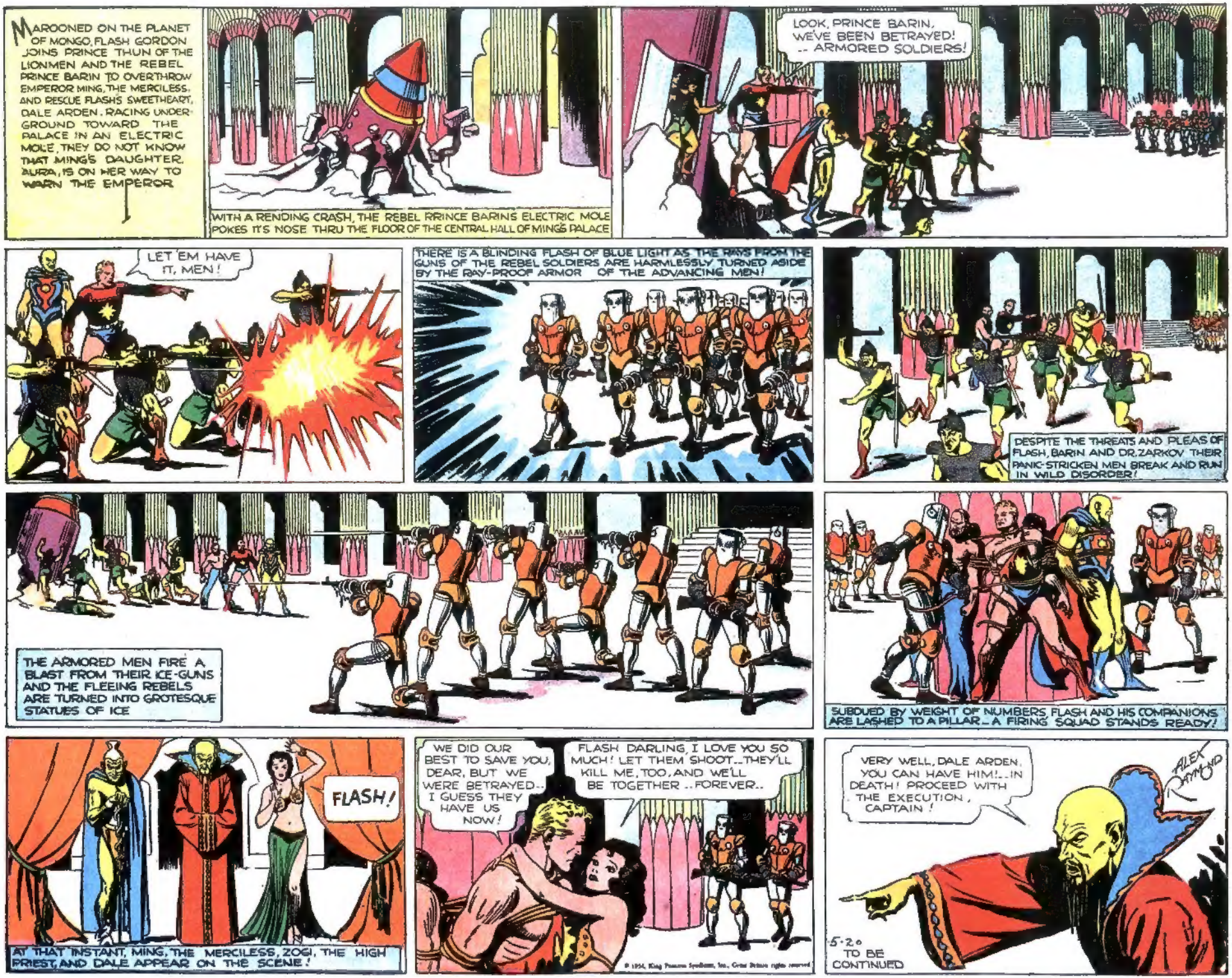
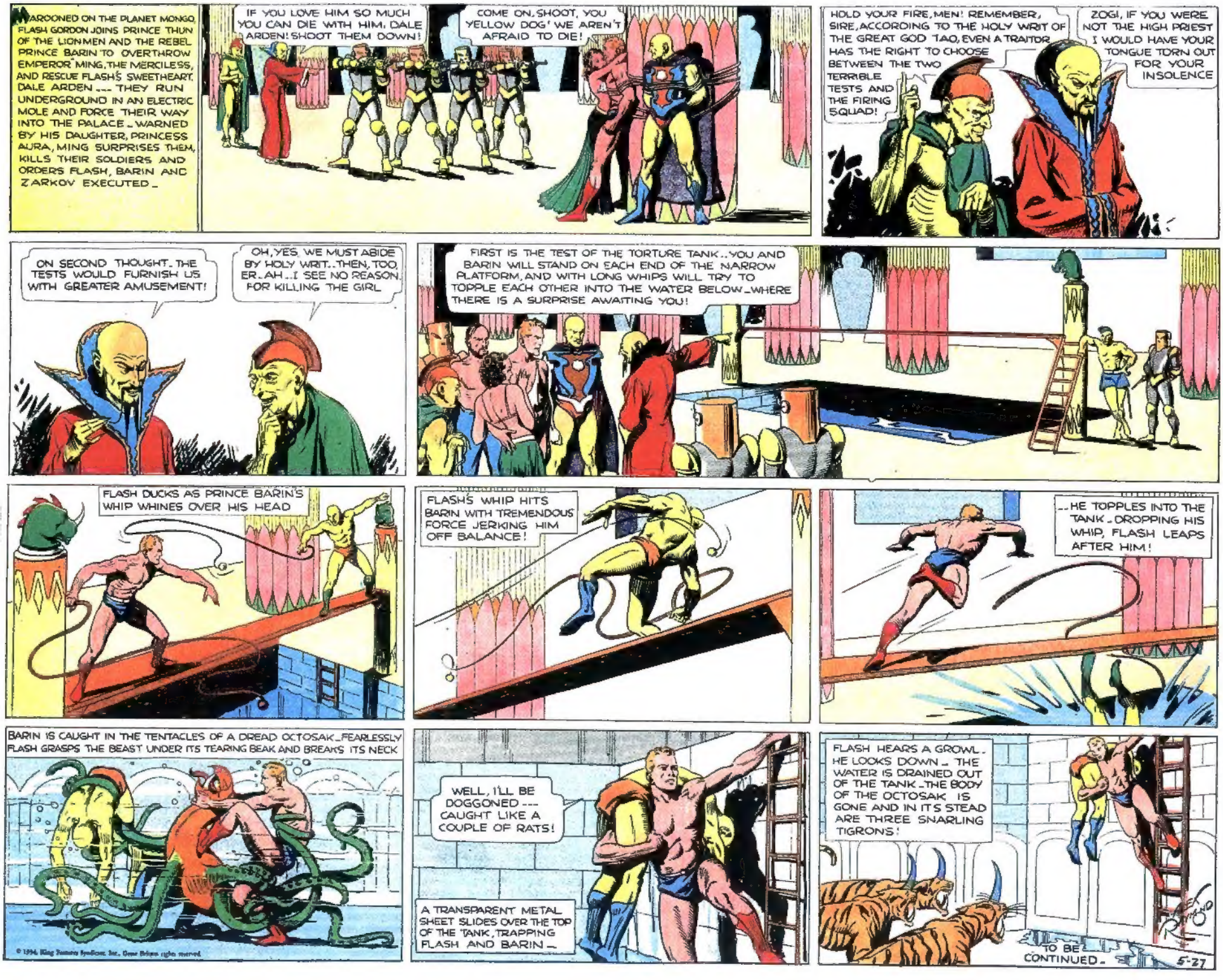
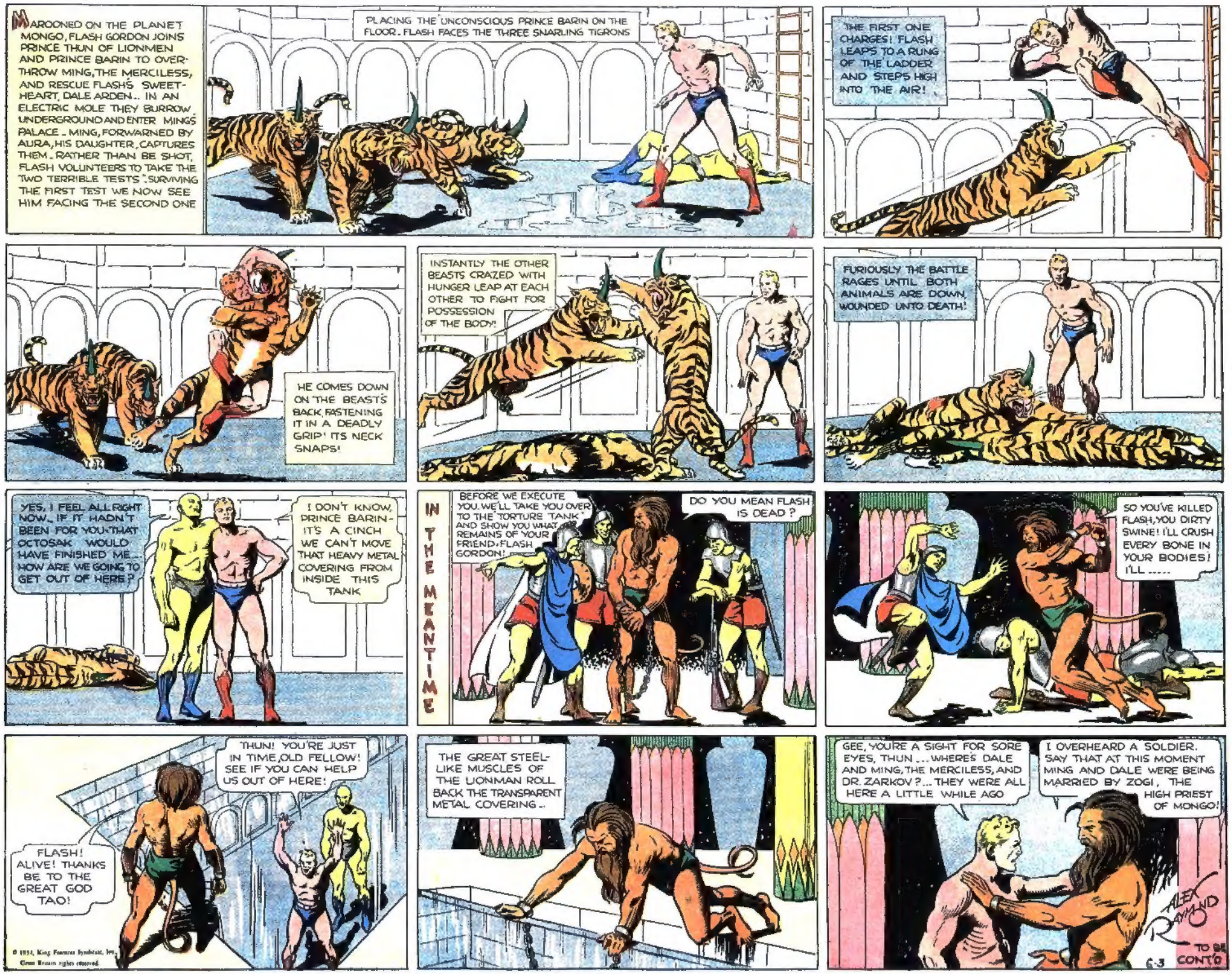
AND FAR BENEATH THE EARTH THE ELECTRIC MOLE IS HEADING UPWARD TOWARD THE PALACE OF MING, THE MERCILESS
ANOTHER TEN MINUTES AND WE WILL BE IN THE PALACE OF THE UNSUSPECTING TYRANT!
AND IF HE HAS HARMED DALE OR THUN I'LL .....
ALEX RAYMOND
TO BE CONT'D—


MAROONED ON THE PLANET OF MONGO, FLASH GORDON JOINS PRINCE THUN OF THE LIONMEN AND THE REBEL PRINCE BARIN TO OVERTHROW EMPEROR MING, THE MERCILESS, AND RESCUE FLASH'S SWEETHEART, DALE ARDEN. RACING UNDERGROUND TOWARD THE PALACE IN AN ELECTRIC MOLE, THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT MING'S DAUGHTER, AURA, IS ON HER WAY TO WARN THE EMPEROR
WITH A RENDING CRASH, THE REBEL PRINCE BARIN'S ELECTRIC MOLE POKES IT'S NOSE THRU THE FLOOR OF THE CENTRAL HALL OF MING'S PALACE
LOOK, PRINCE BARIN, WE'VE BEEN BETRAYED! -- ARMORED SOLDIERS!
LET 'EM HAVE IT, MEN!
THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH OF BLUE LIGHT AS THE RAYS FROM THE GUNS OF THE REBEL SOLDIERS ARE HARMLESSLY TURNED ASIDE BY THE RAY-PROOF ARMOR OF THE ADVANCING MEN!
DESPITE THE THREATS AND PLEAS OF FLASH, BARIN AND DR. ZARKOV THEIR PANIC-STRICKEN MEN BREAK AND RUN IN WILD DISORDER!
THE ARMORED MEN FIRE A BLAST FROM THEIR ICE-GUNS AND THE FLEEING REBELS ARE TURNED INTO GROTESQUE STATUES OF ICE
SUBDUED BY WEIGHT OF NUMBERS, FLASH AND HIS COMPANIONS ARE LASHED TO A PILLAR -- A FIRING SQUAD STANDS READY!
FLASH!
AT THAT INSTANT, MING, THE MERCILESS, ZOGI, THE HIGH PRIEST, AND DALE APPEAR ON THE SCENE!
WE DID OUR BEST TO SAVE YOU, DEAR, BUT WE WERE BETRAYED.. I GUESS THEY HAVE US NOW!
FLASH DARLING, I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! LET THEM SHOOT...THEY'LL KILL ME, TOO, AND WE'LL BE TOGETHER .. FOREVER..
VERY WELL, DALE ARDEN, YOU CAN HAVE HIM!..IN DEATH! PROCEED WITH THE EXECUTION, CAPTAIN!
ALEX RAYMOND
5-20
TO BE CONTINUED


MAROONED ON THE PLANET MONGO, FLASH GORDON JOINS PRINCE THUN OF THE LIONMEN AND THE REBEL PRINCE BARIN TO OVERTHROW EMPEROR MING, THE MERCILESS, AND RESCUE FLASH'S SWEETHEART, DALE ARDEN --- THEY RUN UNDERGROUND IN AN ELECTRIC MOLE AND FORCE THEIR WAY INTO THE PALACE - WARNED BY HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS AURA, MING SURPRISES THEM, KILLS THEIR SOLDIERS AND ORDERS FLASH, BARIN AND ZARKOV EXECUTED -
IF YOU LOVE HIM SO MUCH YOU CAN DIE WITH HIM, DALE ARDEN! SHOOT THEM DOWN!
COME ON, SHOOT, YOU YELLOW DOG! WE AREN'T AFRAID TO DIE!
HOLD YOUR FIRE, MEN! REMEMBER, SIRE, ACCORDING TO THE HOLY WRIT OF THE GREAT GOD TAO, EVEN A TRAITOR HAS THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO TERRIBLE TESTS AND THE FIRING SQUAD!
ZOGI, IF YOU WERE NOT THE HIGH PRIEST I WOULD HAVE YOUR TONGUE TORN OUT FOR YOUR INSOLENCE
ON SECOND THOUGHT - THE TESTS WOULD FURNISH US WITH GREATER AMUSEMENT!
OH, YES, WE MUST ABIDE BY HOLY WRIT.. THEN, TOO, ER - AH .. I SEE NO REASON FOR KILLING THE GIRL
FIRST IS THE TEST OF THE TORTURE TANK .. YOU AND BARIN WILL STAND ON EACH END OF THE NARROW PLATFORM, AND WITH LONG WHIPS WILL TRY TO TOPPLE EACH OTHER INTO THE WATER BELOW - WHERE THERE IS A SURPRISE AWAITING YOU!
FLASH DUCKS AS PRINCE BARIN'S WHIP WHINES OVER HIS HEAD
FLASH'S WHIP HITS BARIN WITH TREMENDOUS FORCE JERKING HIM OFF BALANCE!
.. HE TOPPLES INTO THE TANK - DROPPING HIS WHIP, FLASH LEAPS AFTER HIM!
BARIN IS CAUGHT IN THE TENTACLES OF A DREAD OCTOSAK - FEARLESSLY FLASH GRASPS THE BEAST UNDER ITS TEARING BEAK AND BREAKS ITS NECK
WELL, I'LL BE DOGGONED --- CAUGHT LIKE A COUPLE OF RATS!
A TRANSPARENT METAL SHEET SLIDES OVER THE TOP OF THE TANK, TRAPPING FLASH AND BARIN -
FLASH HEARS A GROWL - HE LOOKS DOWN - THE WATER IS DRAINED OUT OF THE TANK - THE BODY OF THE OCTOSAK IS GONE AND IN ITS STEAD ARE THREE SNARLING TIGRONS!
TO BE CONTINUED -
5-27



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MING, THE MERCILESS, EMPEROR OF MONGO, IS SO ANXIOUS TO MARRY HIS EARTH-GIRL CAPTIVE, DALE ARDEN, THAT HE DOES NOT STAY TO WATCH THE TIGRONS ATTACK FLASH GORDON - BUT HE PLACES ARMED GUARDS IN THE TEMPLE HALL SO THAT NOTHING SHALL STOP THE WEDDING -
BY NOW MY SABER-TOOTHED TIGRONS HAVE TORN YOUR HERO TO PIECES!
POOR FLASH! HE DIED TRYING TO SAVE ME... NOTHING MATTERS NOW!
DOES YOUR SUPREME INTELLIGENCE TAKE THIS EARTH-WOMAN TO BE YOUR WIFE, EMPRESS OF MONGO?
I DO!
AND DO YOU TAKE THIS JUST AND BRILLIANT MAN TO BE YOUR LORD AND MASTER?
I-I-DON'T CARE NOW WHAT HAPPENS!
AS YOU HAVE ACCEPTED EACH OTHER IN MATRIMONY BEFORE THE GREAT GOD TAO, I PRONOUNCE YOU....
STOP!
I, TAO, FORBID THIS MARRIAGE!
FLASH, DARLING! THEY TOLD ME YOU WERE DEAD!
IT'S A TRICK, FOOLS! A STONE IDOL CAN'T TALK!...
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!
FLASH GORDON.. ALIVE!
SHOOT THEM DOWN! THE MARRIAGE GOES ON!
WAIT! THE HOLY SCROLLS SAY YOU CANNOT EXECUTE A MAN WHO HAS PASSED THE TEST OF THE TIGRONS! DROP YOUR WEAPONS OR TAO WILL CURSE YOU ALL!
YOU DARE DEFY ME? I WILL SHUT YOUR JABBERING MOUTH FOREVER!
YA-A-A-AA
SO TAO FORBIDS ME TO SLAY YOU! WELL, TAO AND I WILL BOTH LAUGH WHILE YOU REBELS SLAVE AND DIE IN THE PRISON CITY OF THE HAWKMEN! YOU, DALE WILL BE TAUGHT TO ACT LIKE MY EMPRESS!
DEATH WOULD BE MORE DESIRABLE!
TO BE CONTINUED -
ALEX RAYMOND 6/10
DOOMED TO A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH AMONG THE CRUEL HAWKMEN!
WHAT TERRIFYING ADVENTURES AWAIT OUR FRIENDS?
THIS NEW STORY BEGINS NEXT WEEK

MING, THE MERCILESS, ABOUT TO HAVE FLASH KILLED FOR DELAYING HIS WEDDING WITH DALE ARDEN, IS REMINDED BY ZOGI THAT SUCH ACTION IS FORBIDDEN BY THE HOLY SCROLLS, FLASH HAVING PASSED THE TEST OF THE TIGRONS—INFURIATED, MING KILLS ZOGI AND ORDERS FLASH, DALE, BARIN AND THUN SENT TO THE PRISON CITY OF HAWKMEN!
I DON'T CARE, FATHER, I'LL SEE FLASH AGAIN IN SPITE OF ALL YOUR THREATS!
IF YOU DARE DISOBEY ME, AURA, I'LL HAVE YOUR PRETTY BACK LASHED TO RIBBONS!
MEANWHILE THE PRISON SHIP ROARS THRU THE STRATOSPHERE, CARRYING OUR FRIENDS TO THE PRISON CITY OF THE HAWKMEN!
IN A CELL ABOARD THE SHIP FLASH AND THUN WORK FEVERISHLY ON EACH OTHER'S BONDS
ATTABOY, THUN .. IF WE WORK FAST WE MAY BE ABLE TO FREE ZARKOV AND BARIN AND GET CONTROL OF THIS DOGGONE SHIP!
WHILE IN THE CONTROL CABIN ..
WE ARE PASSING OVER THE MAGNETIC MOUNTAINS.. SEE HOW WILDLY THE COMPASS AND OTHER DIALS ARE SWAYING? WE MUST STEER BY SIGHT HERE!
LOOK, CAPTAIN! THE WINDOW. IT'S TURNING GREEN!
THE GREEN FOG!
I CAN'T SEE! WE'RE DOOMED!
BLINDED BY THE GREEN FOG, THE PILOT LOSES CONTROL... THE SHIP IS DRAWN TOWARD THE MAGNETIC MOUNTAINS.. IT CRASHES!
HELP! HELP!
O.K., FLASH .. TAKE HIS KEYS!
STOP SQUIRMING OR I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO SQUIRM ABOUT!
NICE WORK, MY BOY.. HOW'D YOU GET OUT?
THE CRASH SPRUNG THE LOCK ON OUR CELL .... COME ON ... TO THE CONTROL CABIN QUICK!
CURSE YOU, GIRL, LET GO OF ME!
FLASH! HE'S TRYING TO GET THE SPACEPHONE TO CALL MING!
SORRY TO DO THIS, CAPTAIN LIN-CHU, BUT WE DON'T EXACTLY TRUST YOU!
OKAY, COME ON ... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
AS THE PARTY EMERGES FROM THE SHIP A MISSHAPEN BROWN DWARF RAISES HIS RIGHT ARM AND HURLS A PECULIAR 'S'-SHAPED WEAPON!
ALEX RAYMOND
...AND FLASH SINKS TO THE GROUND AS THE SCREAMING DWARFS SWARM DOWN ON THEM!
TO BE CON'T'D
6/17

THE ROCKET SHIP, CARRYING FLASH, DALE, BARIN, DR ZARKOV AND THUN TO THE PRISON CITY OF HAWKMEN UNDER THE ORDERS OF MING, THE MERCILESS, IS LOST IN THE GREEN FOG WHILE PASSING OVER THE MAGNETIC MOUNTAINS--THE SHIP CRASHES---STEPPING OUT THEY ARE ATTACKED BY A BAND OF BROWN DWARFS---FLASH SINKS TO THE GROUND, STRUCK BY ONE OF THEIR BOOMERANGS----

QUICK, BACK TO THE SHIP! THUN, YOU CARRY DALE, DR. ZARKOV AND I WILL CARRY FLASH!

AMID A HAIL OF S-SHAPED BOOMERANGS AND SPEARS THEY CLAMBER ABOARD THE SHIP

BUT THUN BEING THE LAST TO ENTER, COLLAPSES AS A BOOMERANG HITS HIS HEAD WITH CRUSHING FORCE

WHILE FOUR OF THE DWARFS HOLD ZARKOV AND BARIN AT BAY----

NAME YOUR PRICE WE WILL GIVE YOU ALL WE HAVE IF YOU RELEASE THE GIRL

THE REST OF THE BAND DRAGS THE STRUGGLING DALE INTO THE STUNTED FOREST

HELP! HELP! AH, IF FLASH WERE ONLY HERE

AFTER AN HOUR OF TEDIOUS TRAVEL THEY COME TO A GREAT PLAIN

FAR OUT ON THE PLAIN BULWA LEADER OF THE ARMOR-PLATED WOLVRONS, HOWLS HIS CHALLENGE.

AND LEADS HIS PACK TO THE ATTACK. THE PANIC-STRICKEN DWARFS BREAK AND RUN FOR THE TREES

BUT ROGA, SON OF NURID, KING OF DWARFS, BRAVELY PLACES HIMSELF BETWEEN DALE AND THE WICKED, GLEAMING FANGS!

HIS SWORD USELESS AGAINST THE ARMORED BEASTS, HE GOES DOWN FIGHTING.

LEAVING DALE TO FACE THE BLOOD-THIRSTY PACK ALONE

TO BE CONTINUED

G 24

HAVING CRASHED IN THE MAGNETIC MOUNTAINS WHILE ENROUTE TO THE PRISON CITY OF HAWKMEN OUR FRIENDS ARE ATTACKED BY THE BROWN DWARFS. FLASH IS KNOCKED OUT AND THEY ARE FORCED TO RETREAT TO THE SHIP. BUT THUN WHO IS CARRYING DALE, IS STRUCK BY A BOOMERANG AND SHE IS CAPTURED — CROSSING A GREAT PLAIN DALE AND HER CAPTORS ARE ATTACKED BY WOLVRONS. THE DWARFS FLEE LEAVING ROGA, THEIR PRINCE, TO DEFEND DALE. ROGA GOES DOWN LEAVING DALE ALONE WITH THE BEASTS —

WHILE DR ZARKOV AND PRINCE BARIN ARE HELD PRISONERS BY THE DWARFS FLASH RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS

AND IN THE CONTROL CABIN OF THE SHIP, CAPT LIN-CHU, TRUSTED OFFICER OF EMPEROR MINGS, FREES HIMSELF FROM HIS BONDS!

HE MAKES HIS WAY TO THE SPACEPHONE

CAPTAIN LIN-CHU CALLING MING, THE MERCILESS. SHIP CRASHED IN MAGNETIC MOUNTAINS. PRISONERS ESCAPED. CALLING MING, THE MERCILESS!

SEND THIS TO MING WITH MY REGARDS!

SO THOSE BROWN DEVILS CAPTURED DALE, EH? WELL I'LL GIVE THEM A LITTLE MESSAGE FROM HER!

HERE YOU ARE, BOYS, SPECIAL DELIVERY!

I DON'T THINK HIS NECK IS BROKEN, FLASH.. PROBABLY A SLIGHT CONCUSSION THAT BOOMERANG HIT HIM WITH TERRIFIC FORCE!

YOU'D BETTER STICK WITH HIM, DOC, WHILE BARIN AND I GO AFTER DALE

HURRY UP, FLASH... NO TIME TO LOSE!

IN THE MEANTIME

DALE, DESERTED BY HER COWARDLY CAPTORS, FACES A HOWLING PACK OF ARMOR-PLATED WOLVRONS

AS THE LEADER OF THE PACK LEAPS AT HER THROAT THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH.... HE TWISTS HORRIBLY IN MIDAIR.

DALE!

FLASH.... DARLING!

ALEX RAYMOND

AND WHEN THOSE BEASTS ATTACKED US THEY ALL RAN.. ALL BUT BRAVE LITTLE PRINCE ROGA. HE DIED TRYING TO SAVE ME.. IT WAS AWFUL!

WELL, DEAR IT'S ALL OVER NOW, SO TRY AND FORGET IT!

SAY, FLASH THIS FELLOW'S STILL ALIVE!

PICKING UP LITTLE ROGA THEY SET OUT FOR THE SHIP. BUT THE COWARDLY DWARFS WAIT IN AMBUSH!

TO BE CONT'D.

1
WHILE CROSSING A GREAT PLAIN, DALE AND HER CAPTORS THE BROWN DWARFS, ARE ATTACKED BY ARMOR-PLATED WOLVRONS---THE COWARDLY DWARFS RUN, LEAVING THEIR PRINCE TO DEFEND DALE---HE GOES DOWN FIGHTING AS FLASH AND BARIN RUSH TO THEIR RESCUE---RETURNING TO THEIR WRECKED ROCKET SHIP THEY ARE AMBUSHED BY THREE OF THE DESERTERS
GREAT SCOTT! I SHOT MY LAST RAY BOLT AT THOSE WOLVRONS!
WAITING UNTIL FLASH, DALE AND PRINCE BARIN ARE ALMOST UPON THEM, THE THREE HOWLING DWARFS LEAP TO THE ATTACK!
2
STAND BACK OR I DROP YOUR PRINCE ON MY SWORD!
3
NO, NO! GIVE US OUR PRINCE AND YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR WRECKED SHIP IN SAFETY
JUST TO MAKE SURE, YOU'D BETTER GIVE US YOUR SWORDS!
4
MEANWHILE THUN, RECOVERS FROM HIS INJURIES, HELPS DR ZARKOV REMOVE VALUABLE SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS FROM THE WRECKED ROCKET
I'M GETTING WORRIED ABOUT FLASH AND BARIN-MAYBE THEY ARE CAPTURED, TOO---- WHAT'S THAT RUSHING SOUND?
BY THE GREAT GOD TAO! HAWKMEN! RUN TO THE SHIP FOR YOUR LIFE!
5
PENNANTS FLYING, LANCES HELD IN READINESS, A SQUADRON OF SAVAGE HAWKMEN HURTLES FROM THE SKIES!
6
THEY SEIZE THE FLEEING MEN AND SWEEP THEM INTO THE AIR!-----
7
-----AND IN THE FOREST, FLASH, DALE AND BARIN WATCH, NUMB WITH HORROR!-----
8
---AS THEIR FRIENDS ARE CARRIED AWAY TOWARD A CITY SUSPENDED IN SPACE---THE PRISON CITY OF HAWKMEN!
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND

FLASH AND BARIN, BRINGING DALE AND THE UNCONSCIOUS ROGA, DWARF PRINCE, BACK TO THEIR WRECKED ROCKET, AFTER SAVING THEM FROM THE WOLVRONS, ARE ATTACKED BY THREE DWARFS WHO HAD DESERTED THEIR PRINCE---BARIN STOPS THEM BY THREATENING TO KILL ROGA---MEANWHILE A SQUADRON OF HAWKMEN CAPTURES DR ZARKOV AND THUN, WHO HAD BEEN LEFT AT THE WRECKED SHIP, AND BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF FLASH, DALE AND BARIN THEY ARE CARRIED AWAY!

1

THAT'S THE END OF THUN AND ZARKOV--NO MAN CAPTURED BY HAWKMEN HAS LIVED TO TELL ABOUT IT!

WELL SEE ABOUT THAT!

IT'S HOPELESS, FLASH--- THEIR CITY DRIFTS HIGH IN THE HEAVENS, HELD UP BY POWERFUL LIGHT BEAMS!

2

ARRIVING AT THE WRECKED SHIP, FLASH FREES CAPTAIN LIN-CHU FROM HIS BONDS

THE HAWKMEN HAVE YOUR FRIENDS--- IT WILL BE YOUR TURN NEXT!

IF YOU DON'T SHUT YOUR FACE I'LL LEAVE YOU TIED HERE!

FLASH, I HEAR A HUMMING SOUND!

3

LOOKING UP, THEY SEE A ROCKET SHIP BEARING DOWN ON THEM!

4

THE SHIP SKIDS TO A PERFECT LANDING AND A GIRL ALIGHTS HOLDING A RAY PISTOL!

WELL, PRINCESS AURA, THIS IS A SURPRISE!

I INTERCEPTED LIN-CHU'S APPEAL TO MING FOR HELP---I CAME TO GIVE YOU A LAST CHANCE, FLASH--- MARRY ME AND THE EMPIRE IS YOURS AND YOUR FRIENDS GO FREE---IF NOT, MY FATHER'S MEN OR THE HAWKMEN, WITH MY AID, WILL KILL ALL OF YOU--- YOU SHALL NEVER MARRY DALE ARDEN!

5

MY DEAR PRINCESS, IF I MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO, I CHOOSE DALE AND---- DEATH!

VERY WELL, YOU HAVE MADE YOUR CHOICE--- CAPTAIN LIN-CHU, FLY ME TO THE HAWKMEN!

6

FLASH YOU HAVE SIGNED OUR DEATH WARRANTS, BUT I DON'T CARE AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER!

I'M GLAD, DALE---THAT'S JUST HOW I FEEL!

WELL, THERE SHE GOES! IN AN HOUR EVERY MAN IN MONGO WILL BE AFTER US!

7

FEAR NOT, MY WHITE BROTHER, MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU!

THE DWARF PRINCE!

ROGA!

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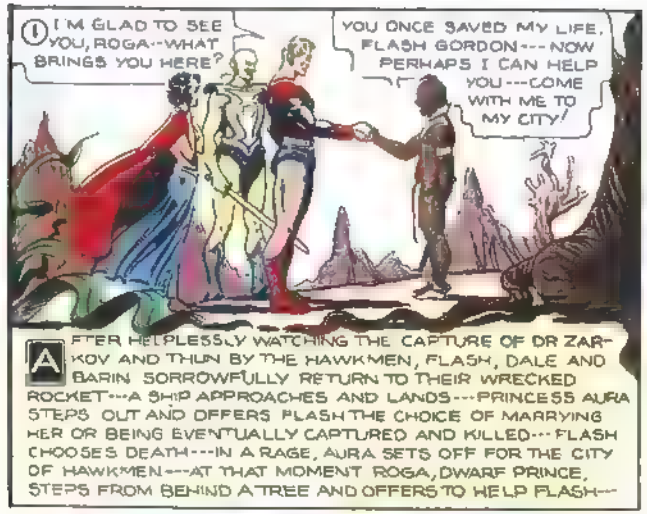
7-16

8

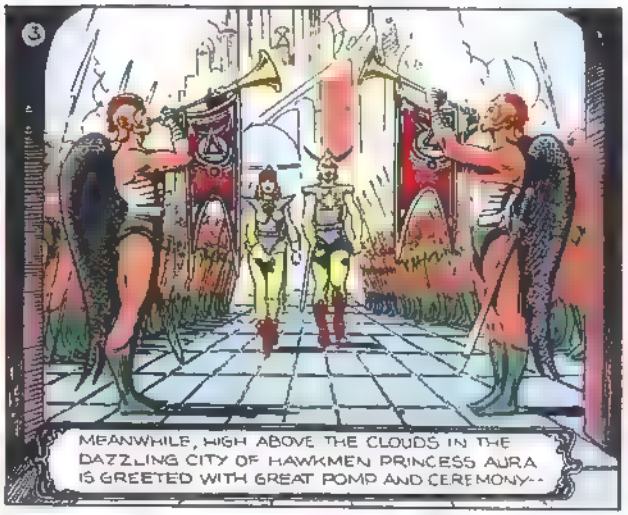
AND PRINCESS AURA IS MET BY AN HONOR GUARD OF HAWKMEN AND CONDUCTED TO THEIR FANTASTIC CITY HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS!

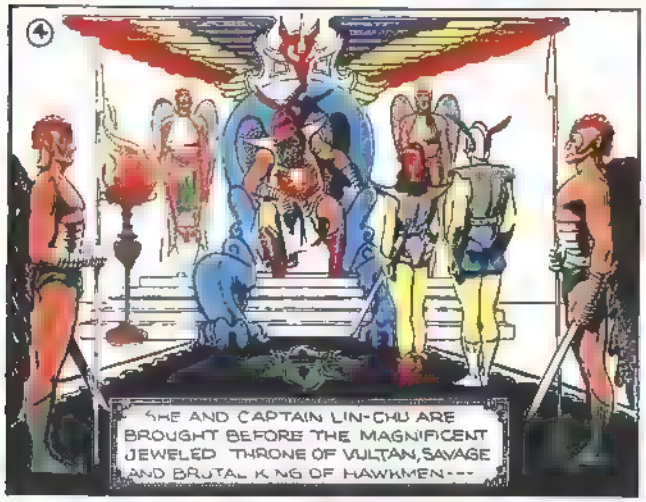
TO BE CONTINUED

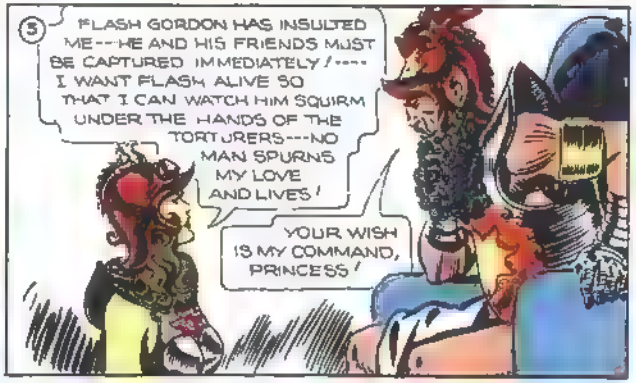
ALEX RAYMOND

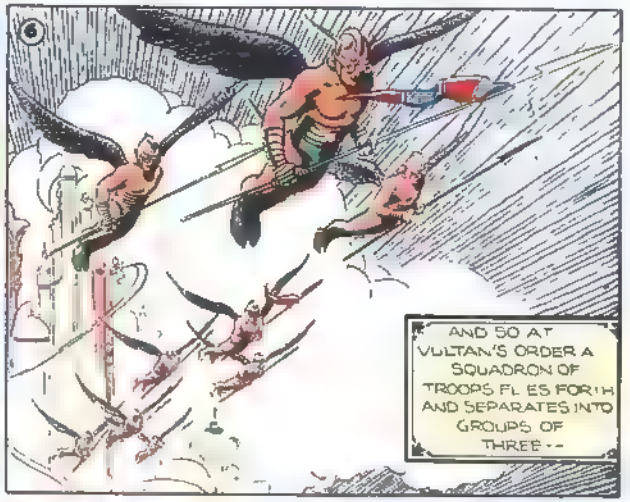

1
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, ROGA--WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
YOU ONCE SAVED MY LIFE, FLASH GORDON---NOW PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU---COME WITH ME TO MY CITY!
AFTER HELPLESSLY WATCHING THE CAPTURE OF DR ZARKOV AND THUN BY THE HAWKMEN, FLASH, DALE AND BARIN SORROWFULLY RETURN TO THEIR WRECKED ROCKET---A SHIP APPROACHES AND LANDS---PRINCESS AURA STEPS OUT AND OFFERS FLASH THE CHOICE OF MARRYING HER OR BEING EVENTUALLY CAPTURED AND KILLED---FLASH CHOOSES DEATH---IN A RAGE, AURA SETS OFF FOR THE CITY OF HAWKMEN---AT THAT MOMENT ROGA, DWARF PRINCE, STEPS FROM BEHIND A TREE AND OFFERS TO HELP FLASH---

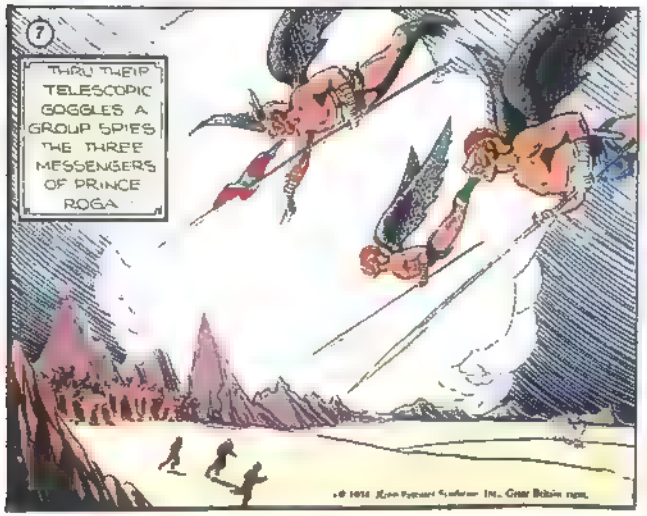
2
HASTEN TO OUR UNDERGROUND CITY--TELL, MY FATHER, KING NURID, TO SEND US AN ARMED ESCORT OF FIFTY MEN TO PROTECT US FROM THE HAWKMEN!


3
MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS IN THE DAZZLING CITY OF HAWKMEN PRINCESS AURA IS GREETED WITH GREAT POMP AND CEREMONY--

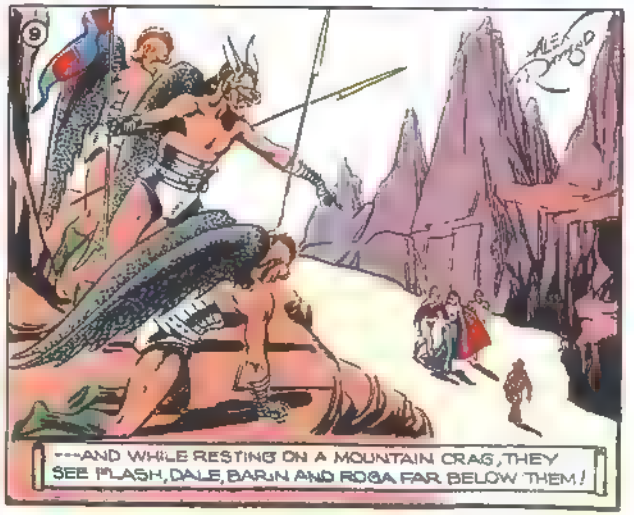

4
SHE AND CAPTAIN LIN-CHU ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE MAGNIFICENT JEWELED THRONE OF VULTAN, SAVAGE AND BRUTAL KING OF HAWKMEN---


5
FLASH GORDON HAS INSULTED ME---HE AND HIS FRIENDS MUST BE CAPTURED IMMEDIATELY!---- I WANT FLASH ALIVE SO THAT I CAN WATCH HIM SQUIRM UNDER THE HANDS OF THE TORTURERS---NO MAN SPURNS MY LOVE AND LIVES!
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, PRINCESS!


6
AND SO AT VULTAN'S ORDER A SQUADRON OF TROOPS FLIES FORTH AND SEPARATES INTO GROUPS OF THREE--


7
THRU THEIR TELESCOPIC GOGGLES A GROUP SPIES THE THREE MESSENGERS OF PRINCE ROGA

8
7-22
--BEFORE THE LUCKLESS DWARFS CAN COLLECT THEIR WITS THEY ARE RELENTLESSLY CUT DOWN BY THE SAVAGE BIRDMEN---


9
---AND WHILE RESTING ON A MOUNTAIN CRAG, THEY SEE FLASH, DALE, BARIN AND ROGA FAR BELOW THEM!

HAVING SEEN SPURNED BY FLASH GORDON IN HER OFFER TO MARRY HIM, PRINCESS AURA FLIES TO THE CITY OF HAWKMEN AND DEMANDS OF KING VULTAN THE CAPTURE OF FLASH, DALE AND BARIN. MEANWHILE, ROGA DWARF PRINCE, OFFERS TO LEAD THEM TO HIS CITY AND SAFETY. BUT THREE HAWKMEN WAIT IN AMBUSH- --

1

AS FLASH DALE BARIN AND ROGA WALK UNSUSPECTINGLY THRU THE MOUNTAIN PASS, THE WAITING HAWKMEN HURL THEMSELVES OVER THE CLIFF -

2

- ROGA IS STRUCK DOWN AND BARIN THROWN HEAVILY TO THE GROUND AS A LANCE THUDS AGAINST HIS BREAST-PLATE --- FLASH LEAPS FOR BARIN'S SWORD ---- -

3

BUT IN VAIN, AS THE CRUEL CLAWLIKE STEEL GAUNTLETS OF A HAWKMAN THROTTLE HIM INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS!

4

THE LEADER CIRCLES HIGH OVER THE SPOT WHERE FLASH DALE AND BARIN ARE HELD PRISONERS AND CALLS THE SCATTERED BITS OF HIS SQUADRON TOGETHER

5

----AND SO THEY ARE DRAGGED BEFORE THE THRONE OF MIGHTY VULTAN!

THE LAWS OF MONGO ALLOW YOU TO JUDGE THE FATE OF ONE OF THESE PRISONERS, PRINCESS, THE OTHERS BELONG TO ME!

I WILL TAKE THE YELLOW-HAIRED YOUTH AND MAKE HIM PAY FOR SCORNING ME!-----BY TORTURING HIM, I CAN ALSO TORTURE DALE!

6

NEVER FEAR MY PRETTY ONE-- YOU CAN HAVE HIM BACK AFTER MY TORTURERS GET THRU WITH HIM -- HA -HAW - HAW HAW!

NO, PLEASE I BEG YOU - KILL ME - -- TORTURE ME ---BUT SPARE HIM!

7

FOR THE LAST TIME, FLASH---DO YOU CHOOSE ME OR FIRE?

FIRE!

8

VERY WELL, GIVE THE STUBBORN FOOL FIRE! GIVE IT TO HIM TILL HE CRAWLS AT MY FEET!

ALEX RAYMOND

TO BE CONTINUED

CAPTURED FINALLY BY THE HAWKMEN, FLASH, DALE AND BARIN ARE DRAGGED BEFORE VULTAN, MIGHTY KING OF HAWKMEN, FOR JUDGMENT---HE GRANTS PRINCESS AURA THE RIGHT OF DECIDING THE FATE OF ONE OF THE PRISONERS---SHE SELECTS FLASH, KNOWING THAT BY TORTURING HIM FOR SPURNING HER LOVE, SHE CAN ALSO TORTURE DALE.....

THANK YOU, PRINCESS,---I'M GLAD YOU REFUSE TO PUT YOURSELF ON A LEVEL WITH YOUR TORTURERS!

WAIT! DON'T I CAN'T BEAR IT!

I HATE YOU, FLASH GORDON! I'LL BREAK YOUR SPIRIT YET! TO THE ELECTRIC TORTURE CELLS WITH HIM!

MEANWHILE DALE DECIDES TO SAVE FLASH BY HER WITS!

JUST BECAUSE I BEGGED FOR FLASH'S LIFE DOESN'T MEAN I LOVE HIM---HE IS BUT A YOUTH---YOU ARE A MAN, IMPRESSIVE ... MAJESTIC.....

AH-H, MY PRETTY BIRD WE SHALL SEE IF YOU LIE COME WITH ME TO THE TORTURE CHAMBERS!

I DON'T CARE MUCH FOR TORTURES, YOUR MAJESTY BUT I GUESS YOU CAN'T HELP WHAT THE EMPEROR'S DAUGHTER TELLS YOU TO DO!

I GIVE THE ORDERS IN THIS CITY!-----TAKE US TO THE TORTURE CHAMBERS!

SEE--THE CURVED WALL KEEPS HIM FROM STANDING UP AND THE ELECTRICALLY CHARGED DOOR KEEPS HIM FROM SITTING DOWN ---CLEVER, EH?

DALE! HAVE YOU GONE MAD?

HA-HA---HOW FUNNY! JUST LIKE A BIRD IN A CAGE!

OH, FLASH DARLING- IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW HARD IT WAS FOR ME TO LAUGH!

WE WILL NOW GO TO MY SKYROOMS

YOU WILL TAKE CARE OF DALE WHILE I ARRANGE TO MAKE HER ONE OF MY WIVES---WON'T YOU, LURA?

I OBEY, YOUR MAJESTY!

THE MOMENT KING VULTAN LEAVES THE ROOM, THE JEALOUS BEAUTIES SEIZE DALE AND DRAG HER TOWARD THE OPEN DOOR TO DASH HER TO HER DEATH!

SHE'LL NEVER TAKE MY PLACE AS VULTAN'S FAVORITE WIFE!

TO BE CONTINUED 8-5

REFUSING TO BELIEVE DALE WHEN SHE SAYS SHE LOVES HIM, NOT FLASH, KING VULTAN BRINGS HER TO VIEW FLASH IN HIS TORTURE CELL--- HEROICALLY ACTING HER PART, SHE LAUGHS AT FLASH---SATISFIED THAT DALE LOVES HIM, NOT FLASH, VULTAN BRINGS HER TO HIS SKYROOMS HAREM WHERE SHE IS TO BE MADE HIS WIFE--- BUT THE JEALOUS WIVES OF VULTAN SEIZE DALE AND DRAG HER TO AN OPEN DOOR TO BE HURLED TO HER DOOM---------

AH THE NEW PRISONER ISN'T SO BRAVE NOW--- HEAR HIM SCREAM!

THE ELECTRIC TORTURE CELL ALWAYS GETS 'EM---

SHUT UP, YOU FOOLS, SOMETHING ELSE IS WRONG---- COME WITH ME!

LOOK---HE'S FROTHING AT THE MOUTH---SAYS HE TOOK POISON---FLASH YOUR LIGHT-RING ON THE LOCK AND OPEN THE DOOR!

AS THE DOOR OPENS, FLASH LEAPS, CRASHING THE SURPRISED TORTURER AGAINST THE OPPOSITE WALL----

SPRINGING TO HIS FEET, HE SMASHES THE GUARD AGAINST THE ELECTRIC DOOR, ELECTROCUTING HIM!

DALE DOESN'T LOVE YOU! EVEN NOW SHE IS BEING MARRIED TO VULTAN IN HIS SKYROOMS!

OH YEAH? ---AH, THERE'S THE ELEVATOR!

ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE ME TO THE SKYROOMS? OR----

I CAN'T---I SWEAR IT! THIS IS AS HIGH AS I CAN GO! ONLY VULTAN'S RING OPERATES THE SKYROOM CONTROL!

LEAVING THE ELEVATOR OPERATOR BOUND AND GAGGED, FLASH SWINGS OUT OF A WINDOW AND STARTS CLIMBING TOWARD THE SKYROOMS

AT THAT INSTANT THE JEALOUS WIVES OF VULTAN HURL DALE FROM THE SKYROOM--------

----INTO FLASH'S ARMS, BUT THE IMPACT LOOSENS HIS HOLD AND THEY HURTLE TOWARD MONGO FIVE THOUSAND FEET BELOW!

ALEX RAYMOND

TO BE CONTINUED

8/2

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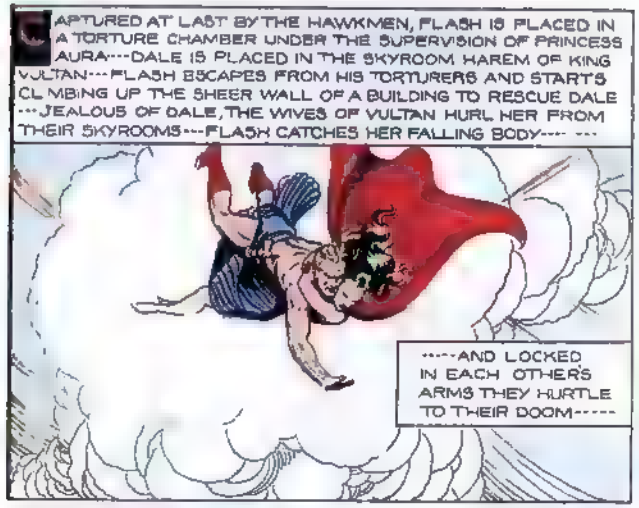
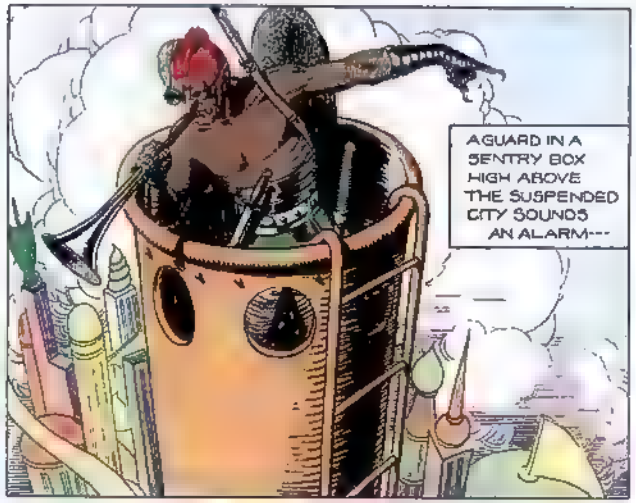
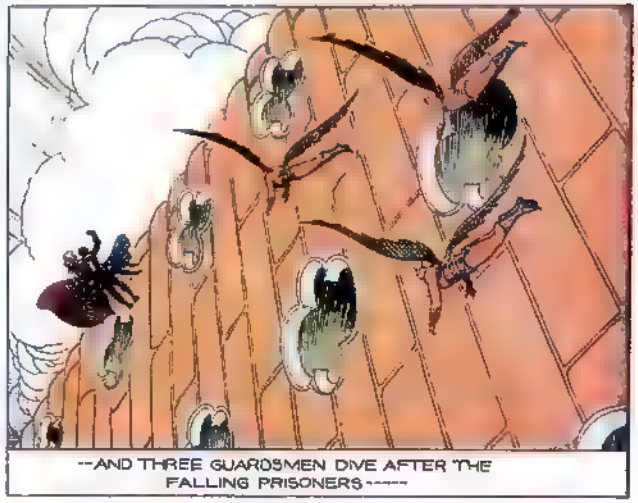
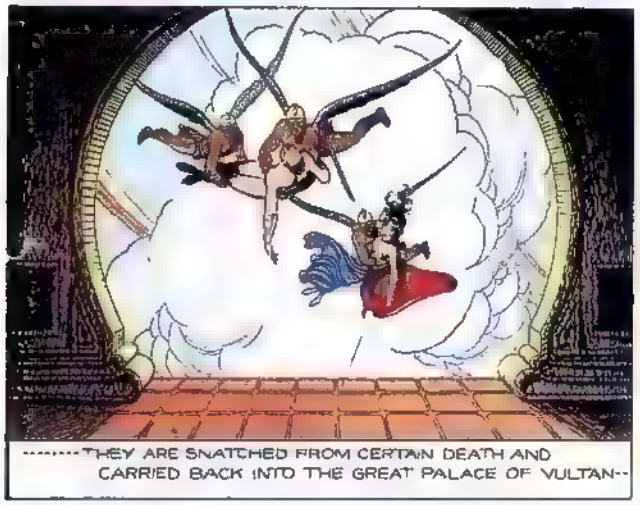
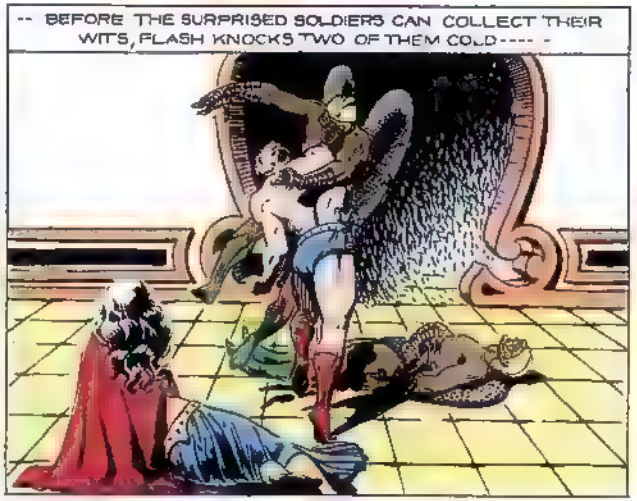
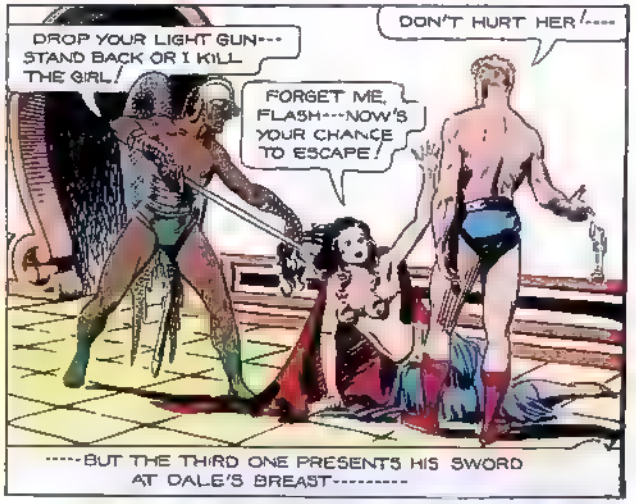

CAPTURED AT LAST BY THE HAWKMEN, FLASH IS PLACED IN A TORTURE CHAMBER UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF PRINCESS AURA---DALE IS PLACED IN THE SKYROOM HAREM OF KING VULTAN---FLASH ESCAPES FROM HIS TORTURERS AND STARTS CLIMBING UP THE SHEER WALL OF A BUILDING TO RESCUE DALE ---JEALOUS OF DALE, THE WIVES OF VULTAN HURL HER FROM THEIR SKYROOMS---FLASH CATCHES HER FALLING BODY---
-----AND LOCKED IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS THEY HURTLE TO THEIR DOOM-----

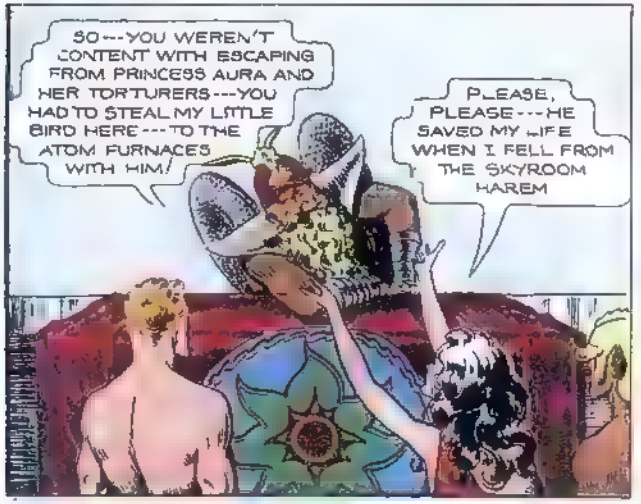

A GUARD IN A SENTRY BOX HIGH ABOVE THE SUSPENDED CITY SOUNDS AN ALARM---

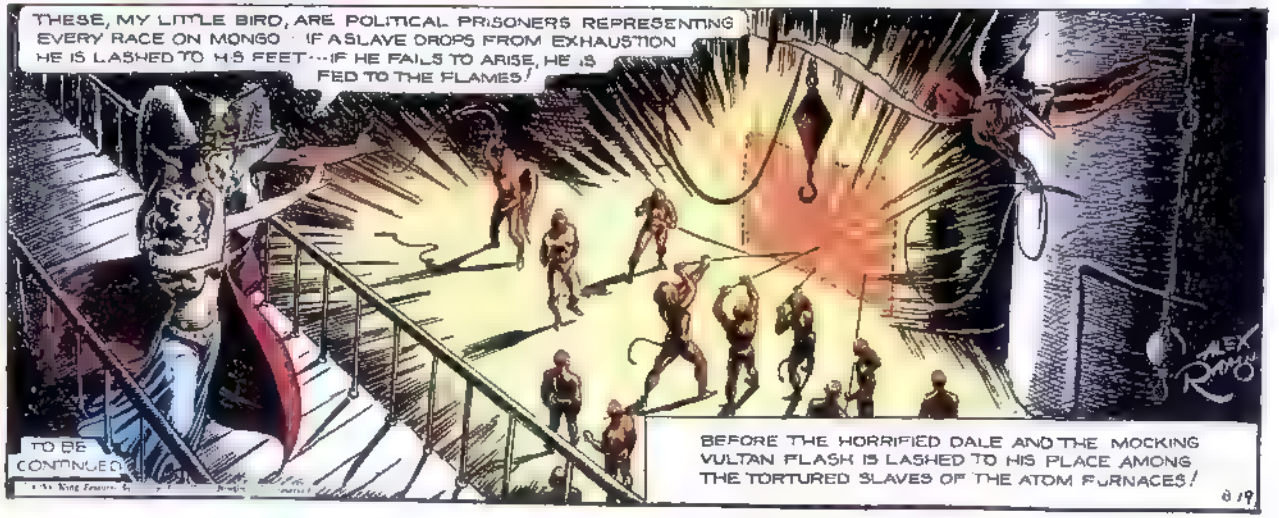

--AND THREE GUARDSMEN DIVE AFTER THE FALLING PRISONERS-----

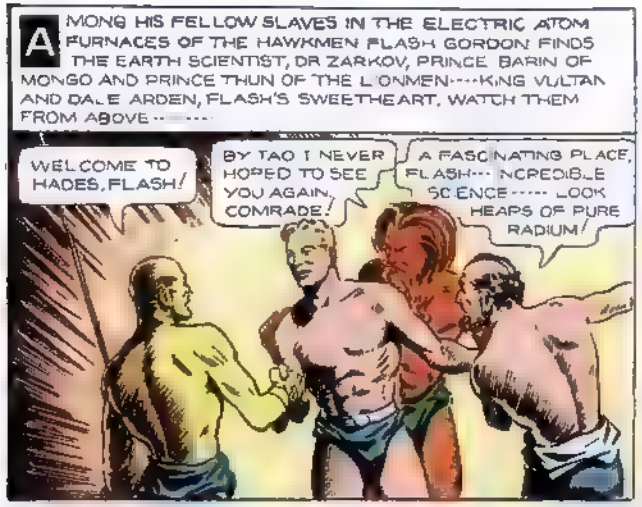

-------THEY ARE SNATCHED FROM CERTAIN DEATH AND CARRIED BACK INTO THE GREAT PALACE OF VULTAN--

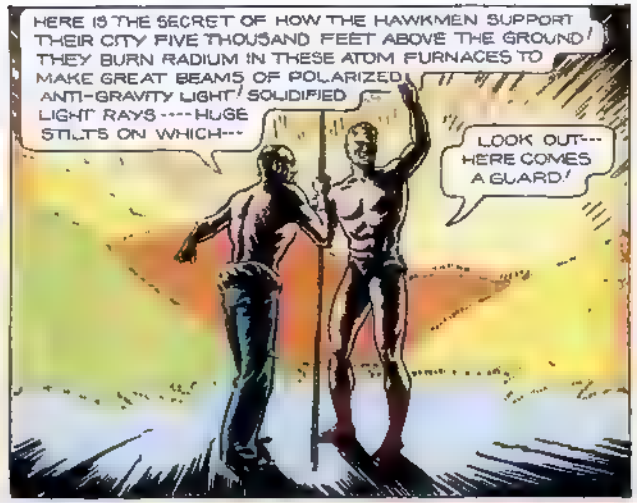

-- BEFORE THE SURPRISED SOLDIERS CAN COLLECT THEIR WITS, FLASH KNOCKS TWO OF THEM COLD-----

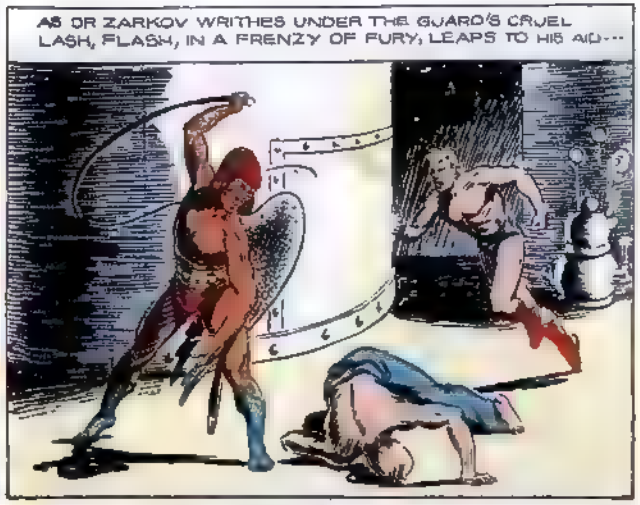

DROP YOUR LIGHT GUN--- STAND BACK OR I KILL THE GIRL!
DON'T HURT HER!----
FORGET ME, FLASH---NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
-----BUT THE THIRD ONE PRESENTS HIS SWORD AT DALE'S BREAST---------

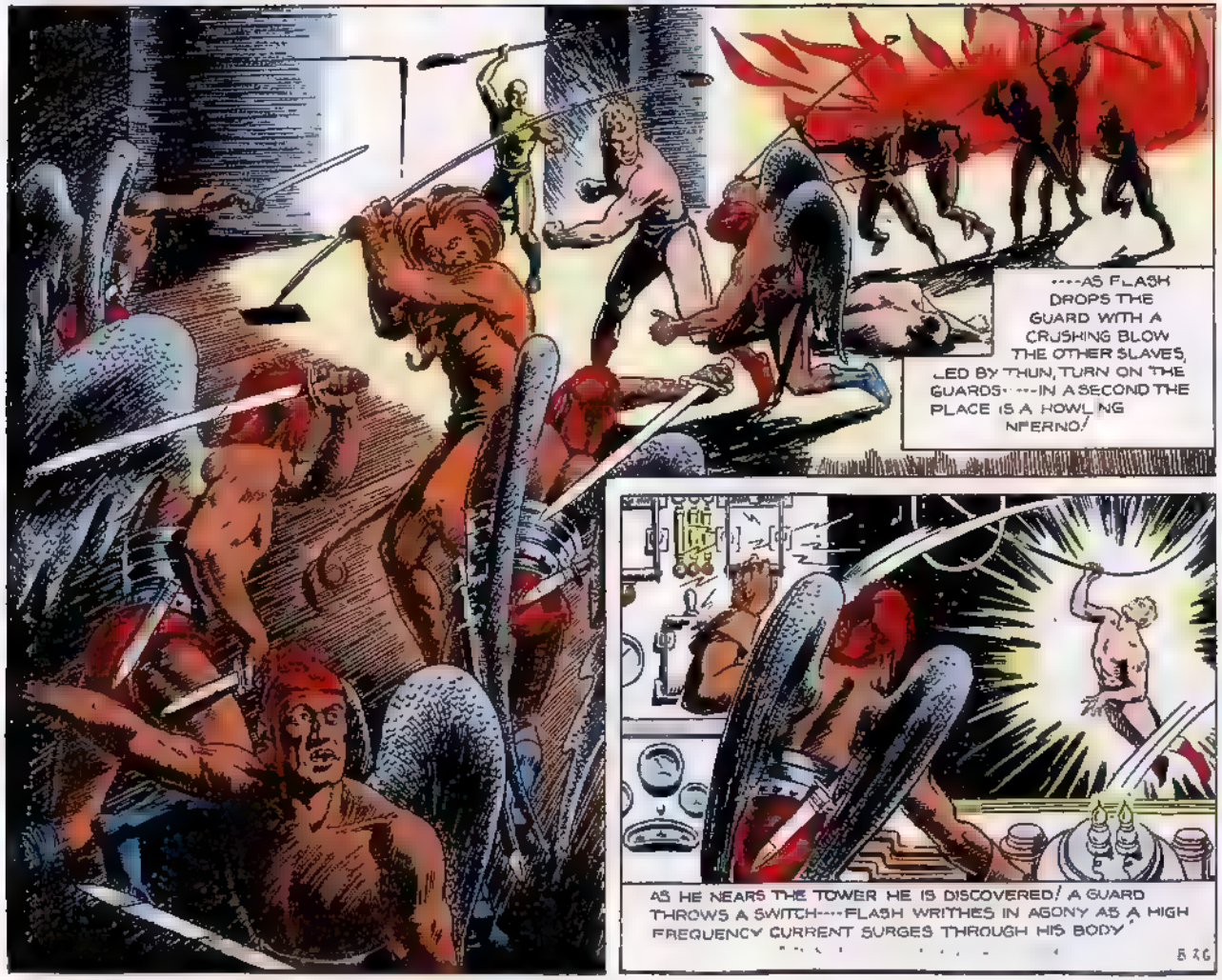

SO---YOU WEREN'T CONTENT WITH ESCAPING FROM PRINCESS AURA AND HER TORTURERS---YOU HAD TO STEAL MY LITTLE BIRD HERE---TO THE ATOM FURNACES WITH HIM!
PLEASE, PLEASE---HE SAVED MY LIFE WHEN I FELL FROM THE SKYROOM HAREM

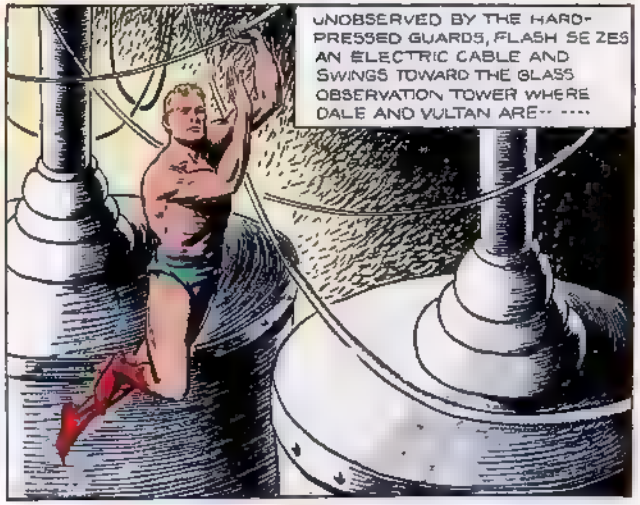

THESE, MY LITTLE BIRD, ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS REPRESENTING EVERY RACE ON MONGO IF A SLAVE DROPS FROM EXHAUSTION HE IS LASHED TO HIS FEET---IF HE FAILS TO ARISE, HE IS FED TO THE FLAMES!
TO BE CONTINUED
BEFORE THE HORRIFIED DALE AND THE MOCKING VULTAN FLASH IS LASHED TO HIS PLACE AMONG THE TORTURED SLAVES OF THE ATOM FURNACES!
ALEX RAYMOND


AMONG HIS FELLOW SLAVES IN THE ELECTRIC ATOM FURNACES OF THE HAWKMEN FLASH GORDON FINDS THE EARTH SCIENTIST, DR ZARKOV, PRINCE BARIN OF MONGO AND PRINCE THUN OF THE LIONMEN----KING VULTAN AND DALE ARDEN, FLASH'S SWEETHEART, WATCH THEM FROM ABOVE----
WELCOME TO HADES, FLASH!
BY TAO I NEVER HOPED TO SEE YOU AGAIN, COMRADE!
A FASCINATING PLACE, FLASH--- INCREDIBLE SCIENCE----- LOOK HEAPS OF PURE RADIUM!

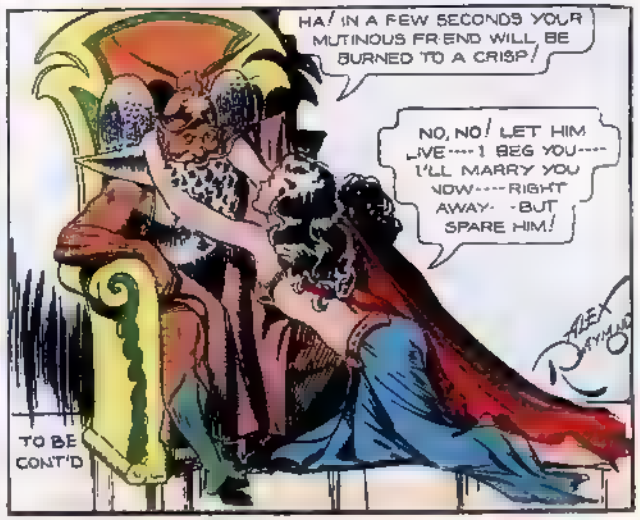

HERE IS THE SECRET OF HOW THE HAWKMEN SUPPORT THEIR CITY FIVE THOUSAND FEET ABOVE THE GROUND! THEY BURN RADIUM IN THESE ATOM FURNACES TO MAKE GREAT BEAMS OF POLARIZED ANTI-GRAVITY LIGHT! SOLIDIFIED LIGHT RAYS----HUGE STILTS ON WHICH---
LOOK OUT--- HERE COMES A GUARD!


AS DR ZARKOV WRITHES UNDER THE GUARD'S CRUEL LASH, FLASH, IN A FRENZY OF FURY, LEAPS TO HIS AID---


----AS FLASH DROPS THE GUARD WITH A CRUSHING BLOW THE OTHER SLAVES, LED BY THUN, TURN ON THE GUARDS----IN A SECOND THE PLACE IS A HOWLING INFERNO!


UNOBSERVED BY THE HARD-PRESSED GUARDS, FLASH SEIZES AN ELECTRIC CABLE AND SWINGS TOWARD THE GLASS OBSERVATION TOWER WHERE DALE AND VULTAN ARE----

AS HE NEARS THE TOWER HE IS DISCOVERED! A GUARD THROWS A SWITCH----FLASH WRITHES IN AGONY AS A HIGH FREQUENCY CURRENT SURGES THROUGH HIS BODY!
5 26


HA! IN A FEW SECONDS YOUR MUTINOUS FRIEND WILL BE BURNED TO A CRISP!
NO, NO! LET HIM LIVE----I BEG YOU---- I'LL MARRY YOU NOW----RIGHT AWAY--BUT SPARE HIM!
ALEX RAYMOND
TO BE CONT'D

FLASH GORDON, TRYING TO RESCUE DALE ARDEN FROM KING VULTAN OF THE HAWKMEN---ONE OF THE RULERS OF MONGO---IS TRAPPED ON AN ELECTRIC CABLE IN THE HALL OF ATOM FURNACES----DALE PROMISES TO MARRY VULTAN IF HE'LL TURN OF THE CURRENT WHICH IS SWIFTLY KILLING FLASH--------

YOU PROMISE TO BE MY OBEDIENT WIFE AND NEVER TO THINK OF THAT SLAVE AGAIN?

I DO, YOUR MAJESTY

AT VULTAN'S ORDER THE GUARD OPENS THE SWITCH AND FLASH, LIMP AND UNCONSCIOUS, DROPS INTO THE WAITING ARMS OF THE SOLDIERS BELOW!-------

TELL ME, DALE, DID MY WIVES DISOBEY ME AND PUSH YOU OUT OF THESE SKYROOMS?

YOUR MAJESTY, I------

NO, YOUR MAJESTY, I FELL----I WAS LEANING OUT ADMIRING THE VIEW---

YOU LIED TO SAVE ME, DALE! FORGIVE ME----I ONLY DID IT BECAUSE I LOVE HIM SO! MY LIFE IS YOURS, DALE--- YES EVEN VULTAN---- TAKE HIM!

GET UP, LURA---I FORGIVE YOU AND I DON'T WANT VULTAN----I LOVE FLASH GORDON--- ALL I WANT IS TO ESCAPE AND SAVE HIM!

I PROMISE YOU I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO HELP!

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO? WE'RE PRISONERS IN THESE SKYROOMS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE ROOM OFF THE HALL OF THE ATOM FURNACES A GUARD GRUDGINGLY APPLIES A HEALING BALM TO FLASH'S BURNS

YOU CAN MOVE ENOUGH TO WORK NOW, YOUTH, BUT IF YOU MAKE A FALSE MOVE A GUARD WILL THROW A SWITCH AND ELECTROCUTE YOU!

WHAT HAPPENED TO DALE?

I HEAR SHE PROMISED TO MARRY HIS MAJESTY

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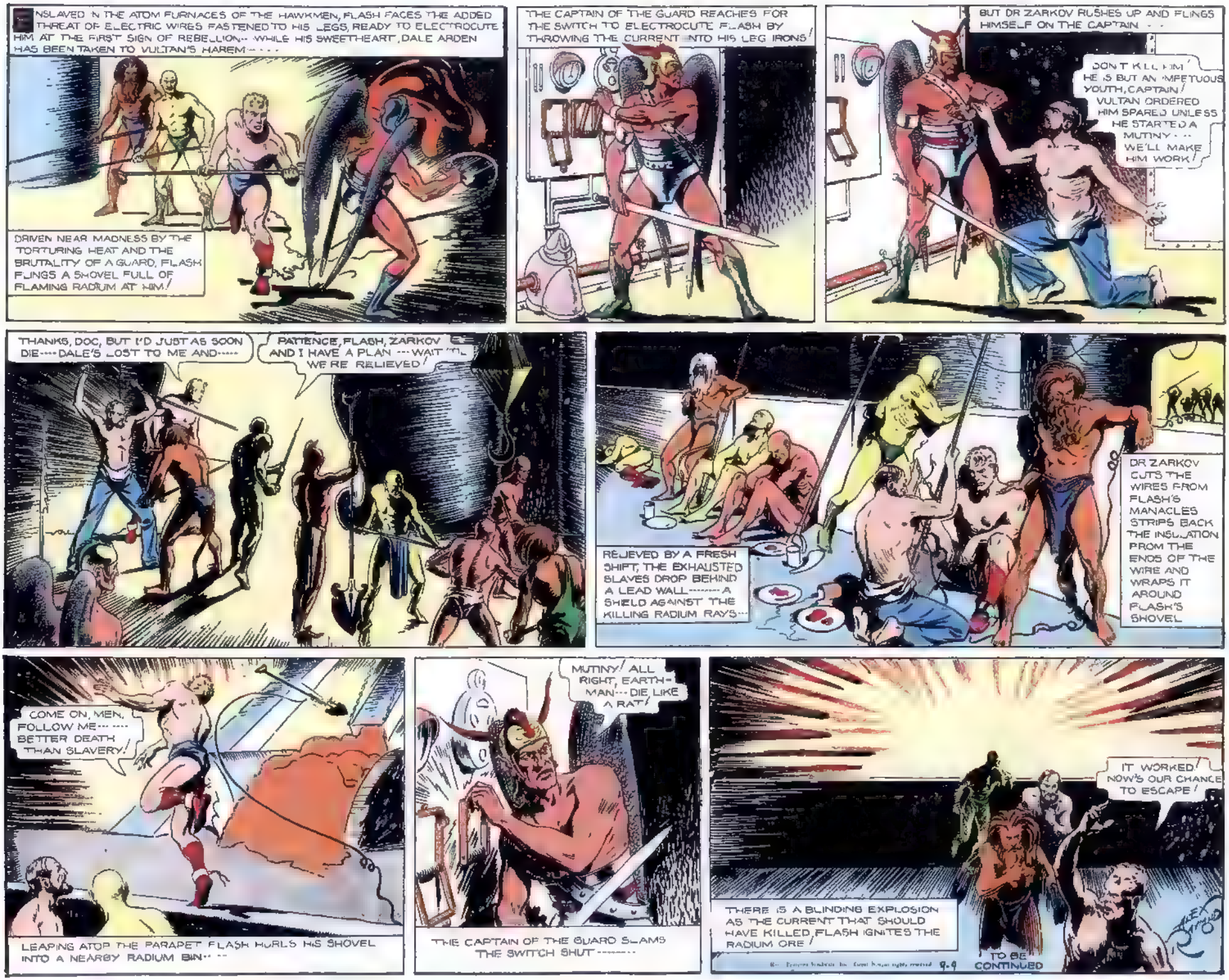
I ALMOST FEEL LIKE ENDING IT ALL----DALE'S LOST AND I'M SUPPOSED TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE IN AN ELECTRIC CHAIR!

COURAGE, FLASH--- THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU!

KEEP COOL AND DON'T START ANYTHING YET ---I HAVE A PLAN!

TO BE CONTINUED

9-2


ENSLAVED IN THE ATOM FURNACES OF THE HAWKMEN, FLASH FACES THE ADDED THREAT OF ELECTRIC WIRES FASTENED TO HIS LEGS, READY TO ELECTROCUTE HIM AT THE FIRST SIGN OF REBELLION-- WHILE HIS SWEETHEART, DALE ARDEN HAS BEEN TAKEN TO VULTAN'S HAREM----
DRIVEN NEAR MADNESS BY THE TORTURING HEAT AND THE BRUTALITY OF A GUARD, FLASH FLINGS A SHOVEL FULL OF FLAMING RADIUM AT HIM!
THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD REACHES FOR THE SWITCH TO ELECTROCUTE FLASH BY THROWING THE CURRENT INTO HIS LEG IRONS!
BUT DR ZARKOV RUSHES UP AND FLINGS HIMSELF ON THE CAPTAIN - -
DON'T KILL HIM! HE IS BUT AN IMPETUOUS YOUTH, CAPTAIN! VULTAN ORDERED HIM SPARED UNLESS HE STARTED A MUTINY - - WE'LL MAKE HIM WORK!
THANKS, DOC, BUT I'D JUST AS SOON DIE---- DALE'S LOST TO ME AND-----
PATIENCE, FLASH, ZARKOV AND I HAVE A PLAN --- WAIT 'TIL WE'RE RELIEVED!
REJEVED BY A FRESH SHIFT, THE EXHAUSTED SLAVES DROP BEHIND A LEAD WALL------- A SHIELD AGAINST THE KILLING RADIUM RAYS---
DR ZARKOV CUTS THE WIRES FROM FLASH'S MANACLES STRIPS BACK THE INSULATION FROM THE ENDS OF THE WIRE AND WRAPS IT AROUND FLASH'S SHOVEL
COME ON, MEN, FOLLOW ME--- ---- BETTER DEATH THAN SLAVERY!
LEAPING ATOP THE PARAPET FLASH HURLS HIS SHOVEL INTO A NEARBY RADIUM BIN-- --
MUTINY! ALL RIGHT, EARTH-MAN--- DIE LIKE A RAT!
THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD SLAMS THE SWITCH SHUT--------
IT WORKED! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
THERE IS A BLINDING EXPLOSION AS THE CURRENT THAT SHOULD HAVE KILLED FLASH IGNITES THE RADIUM ORE!
TO BE CONTINUED

WHILE FLASH GORDON IS TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM KING VULTAN'S ATOM FURNACES, PRINCESS AURA, DAUGHTER OF MING -EMPEROR OF THE PLANET MONGO-- IS SO FURIOUS AT THE WAY FLASH REPULSED HER ADVANCES THAT SHE IS TAKING IT OUT ON HER AVIATOR, CAPTAIN LIN-CHU-----

YOU BLUNDERER! IF YOU HADN'T LET FLASH RESCUE DALE ARDEN FROM YOUR PRISON SHIP HE'D HAVE FORGOTTEN HER NOW!

NO DOUBT, YOUR MAJESTY!

CAPTAIN LIN-CHU, HUNGRY FOR REVENGE AND POWER, SEEKS AN AUDIENCE WITH KING VULTAN OF THE HAWKMEN-----

SEND THE PRETTY LITTLE EARTH GIRL TO MY ROOMS TONIGHT-- AND ORDER THE HIGH PRIEST TO BE READY FOR THE CEREMONY WHAT IS YOUR WISH, CAPTAIN?

I WISH TO SEE YOU ALONE, SIRE

YOUR MAJESTY, I DESIRE TO BECOME THE GENERAL OF YOUR ARMY---OTHERWISE, IF I REMAIN IN EMPEROR MING'S SERVICE, I MUST TELL HIM THAT YOU PLAN TO TAKE HIS FUTURE BRIDE, DALE ARDEN, FOR YOUR OWN HAREM-

HO, HAW, HAW! YOU'LL NOT BE GENERAL, NOR WILL YOU TELL MING, IN THIS WORLD!

IN WILD FURY LIN-CHU SPRINGS AT VULTAN WITH UPRAISED DAGGER THE MIGHTY KING'S STEELY FINGERS SINK INTO THE CAPTAIN'S THROAT--------

TOSS THIS FOOL INTO THE ATOM FURNACES---LET HIM DO HIS RAVING TO THE FIRES!

NO! NO!

LIN-CHU HAS JUST COMMITTED SUICIDE BY THREATENING TO TELL YOUR FATHER THAT I AM ABOUT TO MARRY DALE--- IF I WERE YOU I WOULDN'T TRY IT EITHER----

YOU DARE TO THREATEN ME?

SIRE, FLASH GORDON HAS BLOWN UP THE RADIUM SUPPLY AND ESCAPED!

MEANWHILE, LIN-CHU IS DRAGGED BEFORE A HUGE FURNACE AND FLUNG, SCREAMING, INTO IT'S FLAMING MAW!

WELL, THAT'S THE END OF POOR LIN-CHU - ---THE MERCILESS DEVILS!

THAT, COMRADE, WILL BE OUR FATE IF WE ARE CAUGHT!

TO BE CONTINUED

HEARING THE COMMOTION ACROSS THE GREAT HALL, FLASH, THUN, ZARKOV AND BARIN PAUSE IN THEIR DASH FOR FREEDOM AND SHUDDER AT THE SIGHT!

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FLASH GORDON, PRISONER OF THE HAWKMEN ON THE PLANET MONGO, MADE A BID FOR FREEDOM BY BLOWING UP THE RADIUM ORE IN THE ATOM FURNACES--- IN THE CONFUSION, HE AND HIS COMRADES, PRINCE BARIN, THUN AND DR ZARKOV ARE TRYING TO ESCAPE--

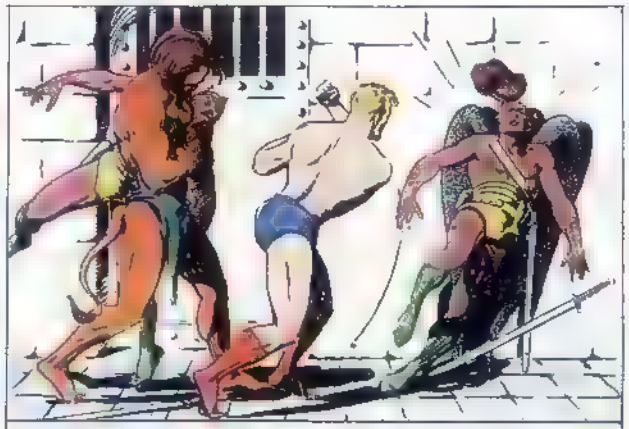
NO, FLASH, I'LL STAY HERE AND EXPERIMENT WITH THE RADIUM ORE AND, PERHAPS, BRING VULTAN TO TERMS----

DALE'S IN DANGER---- I MUST GO!

I'M WITH YOU, ZARKOV!

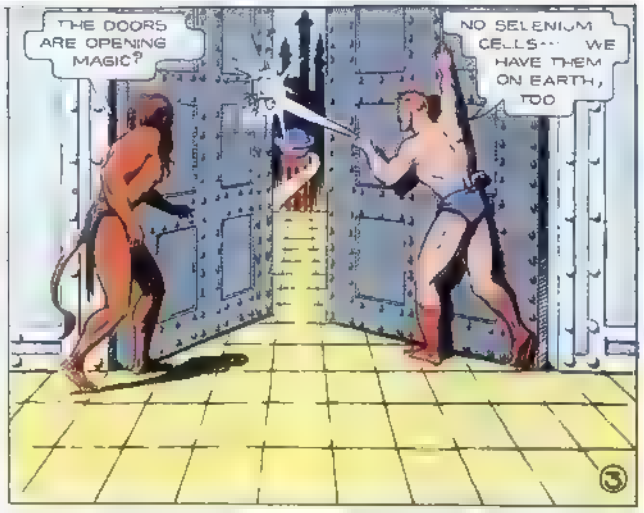
WHERE FLASH GOES, BY TAO, I GO!

1



IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE GREAT HALL OF ATOM FURNACES, FLASH AND THUN SUBDUE THE SENTRIES AND TAKE THEIR WEAPONS---

2



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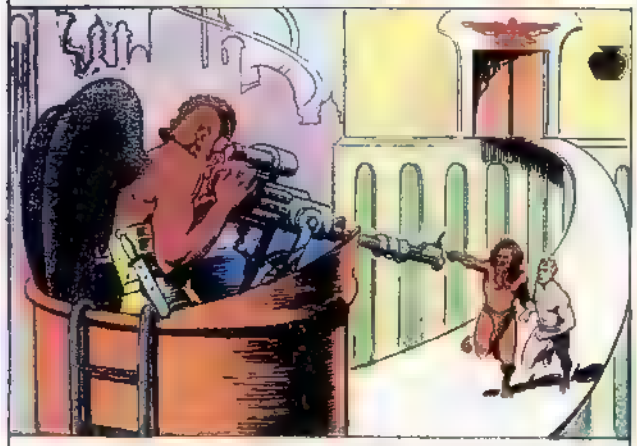
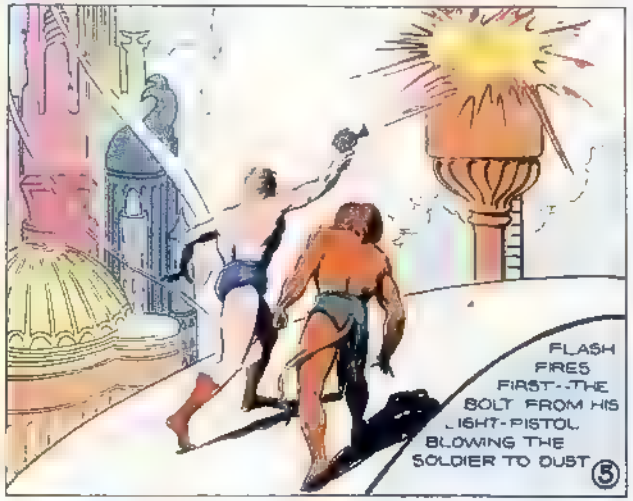


AS THEY EMERGE FROM THE BUILDING A GUARD SOUNDS AN ALARM AND TRAINS A QUICK-FIRING ATOM-GUN ON THEM

4



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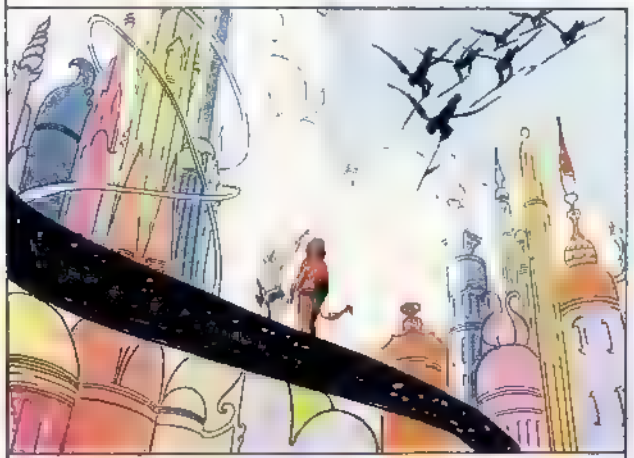
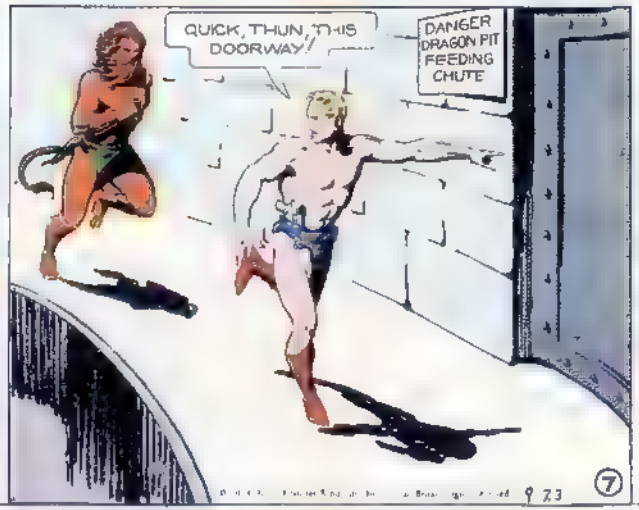
FAILING, IN THEIR EXCITEMENT, TO NOTICE THE WARNING ON THE DOOR, THEY SLIDE TOWARD THE PIT WHERE DWELLS SULPHA, SACRED DRAGON, OF THE HAWKMEN, WHOSE VERY BREATH IS DEADLY POISON!

8



BUT TOO LATE---A PATROL OF LANCERS, ANSWERING THE ALARM, SWOOPS FOR THE KILL--- ---

6



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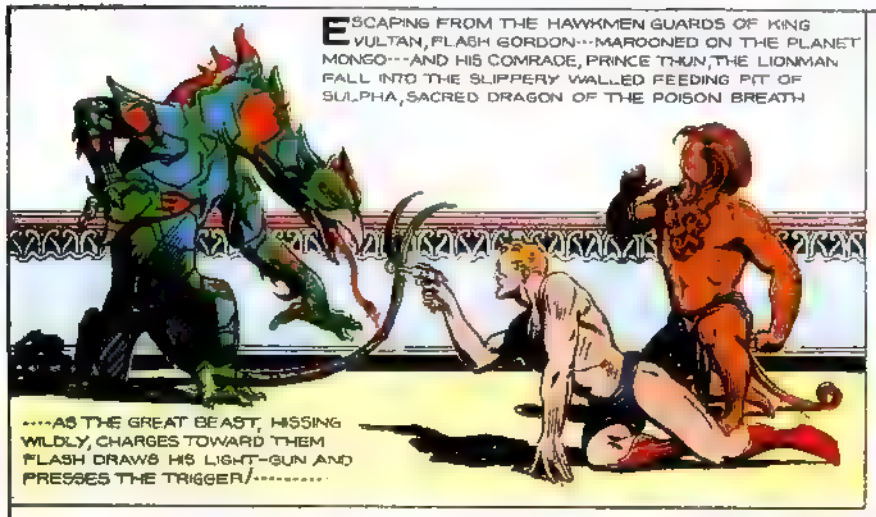
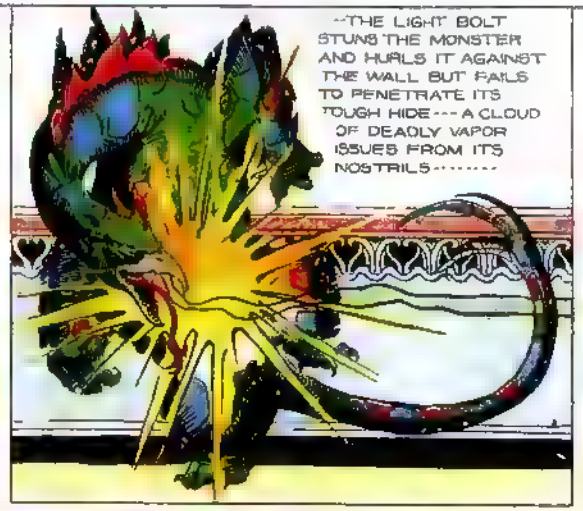
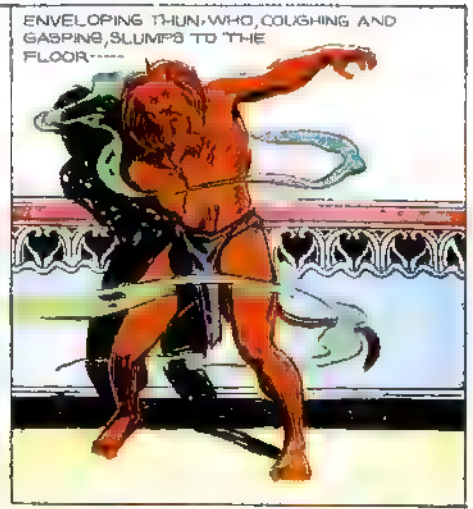
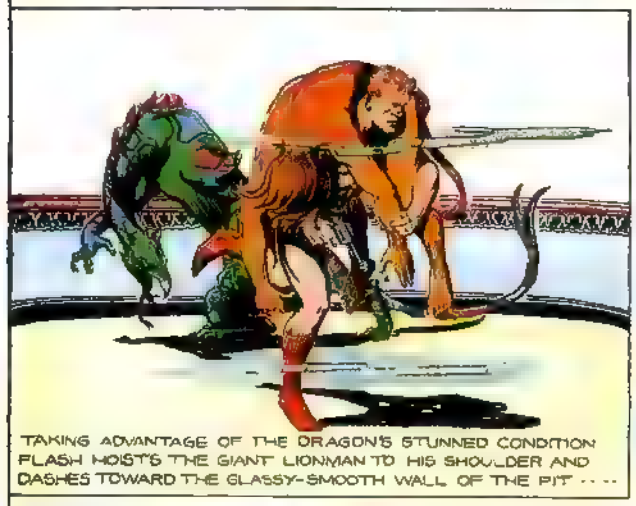
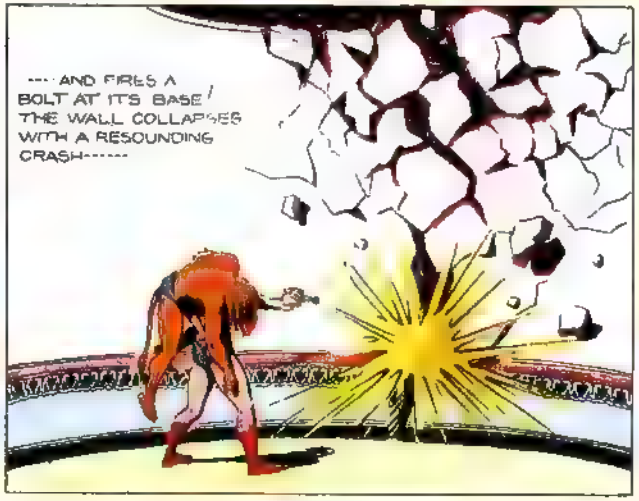

ESCAPING FROM THE HAWKMEN GUARDS OF KING VULTAN, FLASH GORDON---MAROONED ON THE PLANET MONGO---AND HIS COMRADE, PRINCE THUN, THE LIONMAN FALL INTO THE SLIPPERY WALLED FEEDING PIT OF SULPHA, SACRED DRAGON OF THE POISON BREATH
----AS THE GREAT BEAST, HISSING WILDLY, CHARGES TOWARD THEM FLASH DRAWS HIS LIGHT-GUN AND PRESSES THE TRIGGER!---------

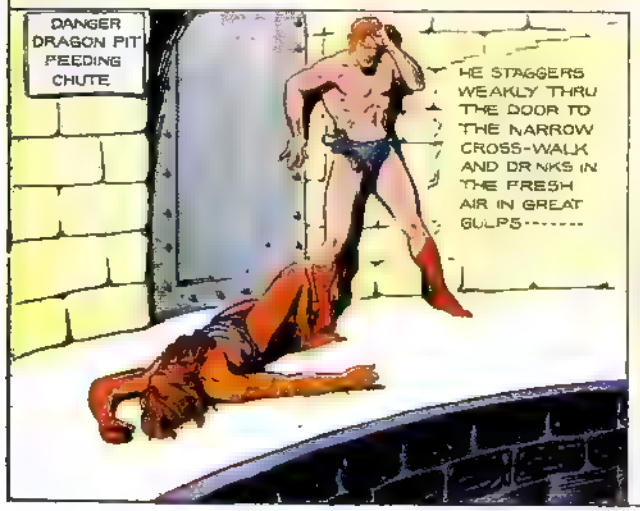

--THE LIGHT BOLT STUNS THE MONSTER AND HURLS IT AGAINST THE WALL BUT FAILS TO PENETRATE ITS TOUGH HIDE--- A CLOUD OF DEADLY VAPOR ISSUES FROM ITS NOSTRILS--------

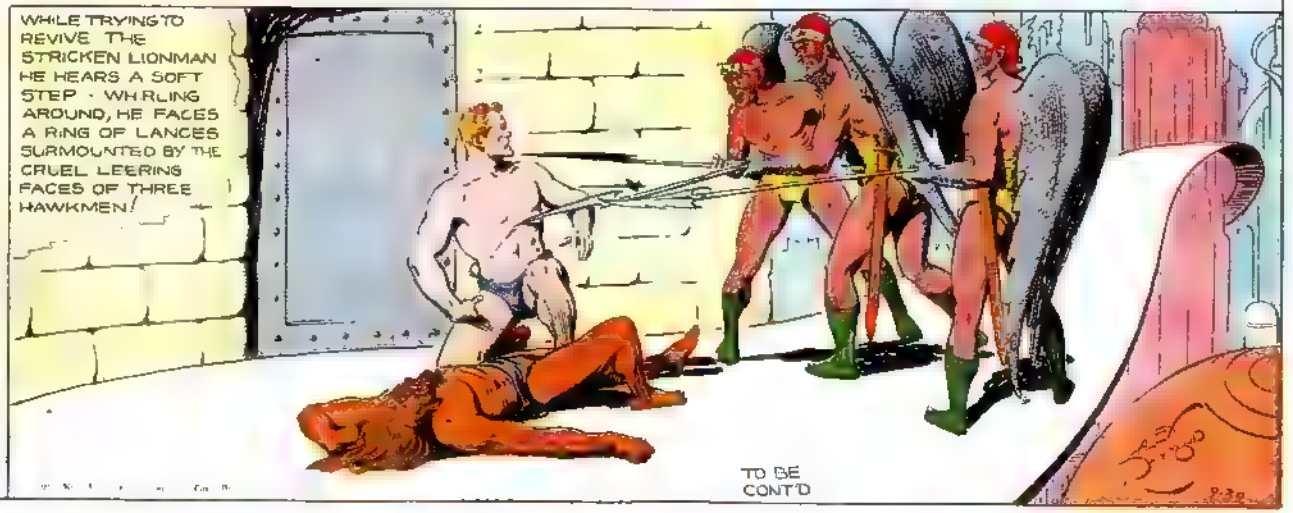

ENVELOPING THUN, WHO, COUGHING AND GASPING, SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR-----


TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE DRAGON'S STUNNED CONDITION FLASH HOISTS THE GIANT LIONMAN TO HIS SHOULDER AND DASHES TOWARD THE GLASSY-SMOOTH WALL OF THE PIT ----


---AND FIRES A BOLT AT ITS BASE! THE WALL COLLAPSES WITH A RESOUNDING CRASH------

GIVING HIM A FOOTHOLD WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT OF WILL HE FIGHTS OFF UNCONSCIOUSNESS FROM THE POISONOUS FUMES AND REACHES THE TOP OF THE PIT!------


DANGER DRAGON PIT FEEDING CHUTE
HE STAGGERS WEAKLY THRU THE DOOR TO THE NARROW CROSS-WALK AND DRINKS IN THE FRESH AIR IN GREAT GULPS-------


WHILE TRYING TO REVIVE THE STRICKEN LIONMAN HE HEARS A SOFT STEP - WHIRLING AROUND, HE FACES A RING OF LANCES SURMOUNTED BY THE CRUEL LEERING FACES OF THREE HAWKMEN!
TO BE CONT'D

FLASH GORDON, AN EARTHMAN, CAST AWAY WITH DALE ARDEN ON THE PLANET MONGO, AND PRINCE THUN, THE LION-MAN, HAVE JUST ESCAPED FROM THE PIT OF SULPHA, SACRED DRAGON OF THE HAWKMEN AS THEY EMERGE, THEY ARE ATTACKED BY THREE OF KING VULTAN'S HAWKMEN.....

LIKE RELEASED SPRINGS FLASH'S POWERFUL LEGS DRIVE HIM BEYOND REACH OF THE MENACING LANCES... HIS LIGHT BOLT CRASHES IN THEIR MIDST!

MUSTERING ALL HIS STRENGTH, FLASH HURLS THE HEAVY LIGHT-GUN INTO ONE OF THEIR FACES

BUT THE EFFORT THROWS HIM OFF BALANCE.....THE THIRD SOLDIER RAISES HIS SPEAR, BUT THUN, RECOVERED FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE POISON VAPOR OF THE DRAGON PIT.....

--HURLS HIMSELF IN FRONT OF FLASH AND TAKES THE LANCE IN HIS SHOULDER!

BEFORE THE SOLDIER CAN DRAW HIS SWORD FLASH'S FIST SENDS HIM SPINNING SENSELESS TOWARD THE GROUND, FIVE THOUSAND FEET BELOW!

BRING MY LITTLE BIRD TO ME AND TELL THE HIGH PRIEST TO HAUL HIS RATTLING BONES TO MY ROOMS---HAW, HAW.

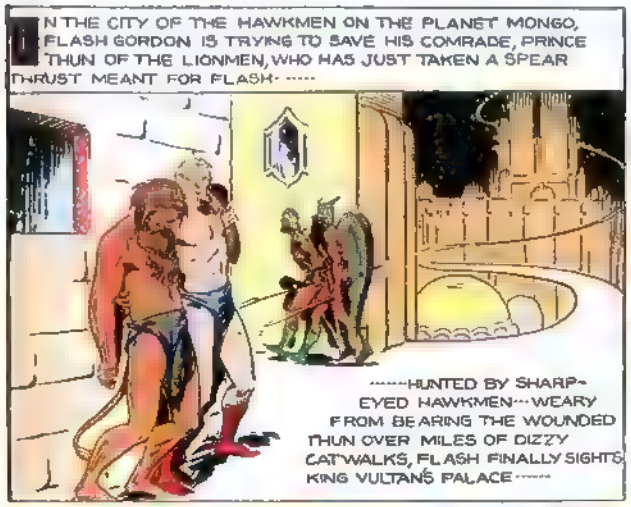
MEANWHILE KING VULTAN, WITH TWO OF HIS GENERALS, CELEBRATES WILDLY HIS APPROACHING MARRIAGE TO DALE ARDEN

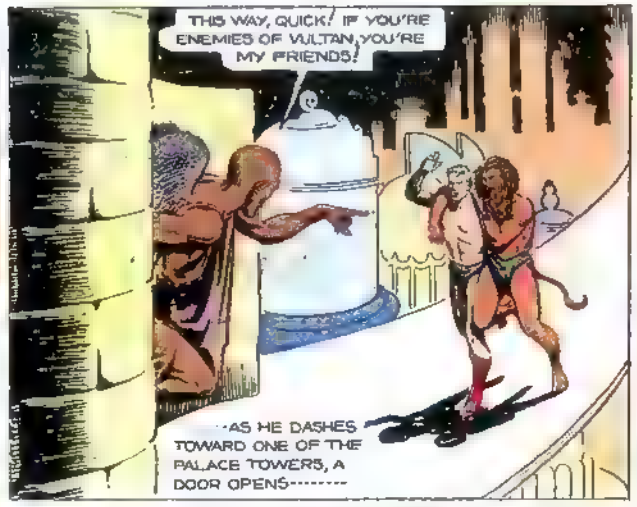
AND DALE RESIGNED TO HER FATE PRAYS FOR FLASH

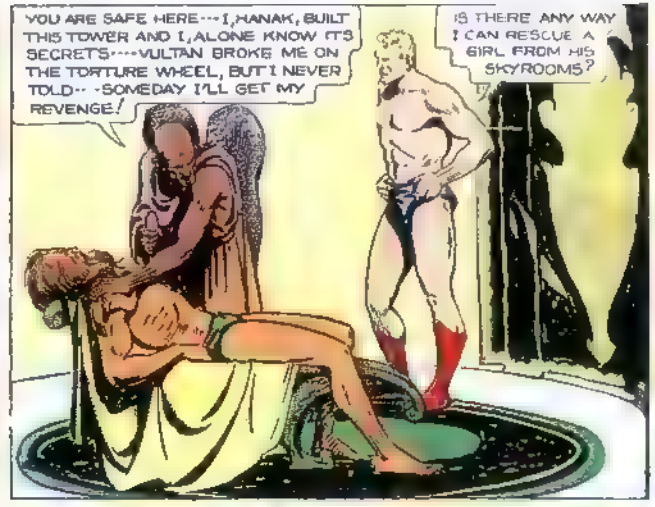
--PLEASE WATCH OVER AND PROTECT HIM--IF WE CAN'T HAVE EACH OTHER, THEN LET HIM FORGET ME--EVEN THO' I CAN NEVER STOP LOVING HIM--

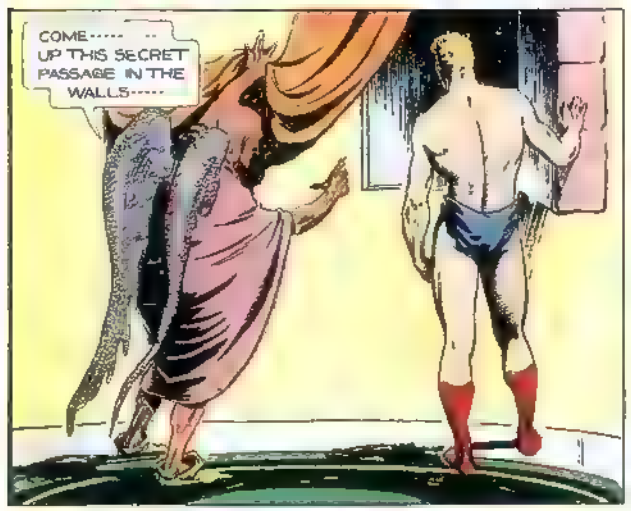
AND SO, AT KING VULTAN'S COMMAND, A GIANT OFFICER OF HIS GUARD ESCORTS DALE TO THE BRIDAL CHAMBERS, WHERE THE HIGH PRIEST AWAITS TO PERFORM THE CEREMONY!

TO BE CONT'D

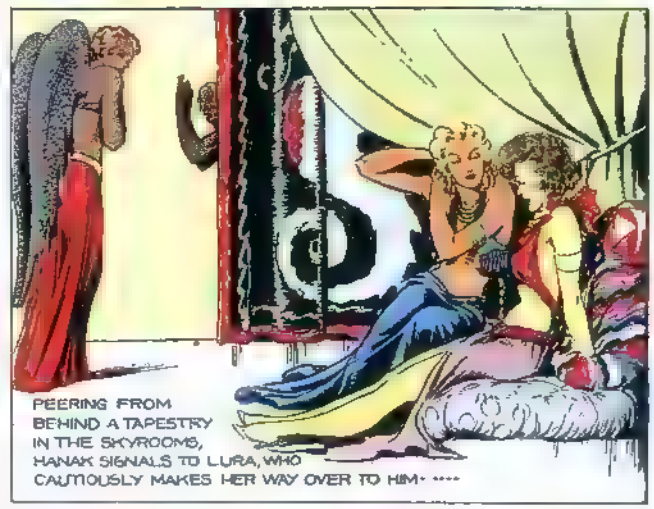

IN THE CITY OF THE HAWKMEN ON THE PLANET MONGO, FLASH GORDON IS TRYING TO SAVE HIS COMRADE, PRINCE THUN OF THE LIONMEN, WHO HAS JUST TAKEN A SPEAR THRUST MEANT FOR FLASH·····
·····HUNTED BY SHARP-EYED HAWKMEN···WEARY FROM BEARING THE WOUNDED THUN OVER MILES OF DIZZY CAT'WALKS, FLASH FINALLY SIGHTS KING VULTAN'S PALACE·····

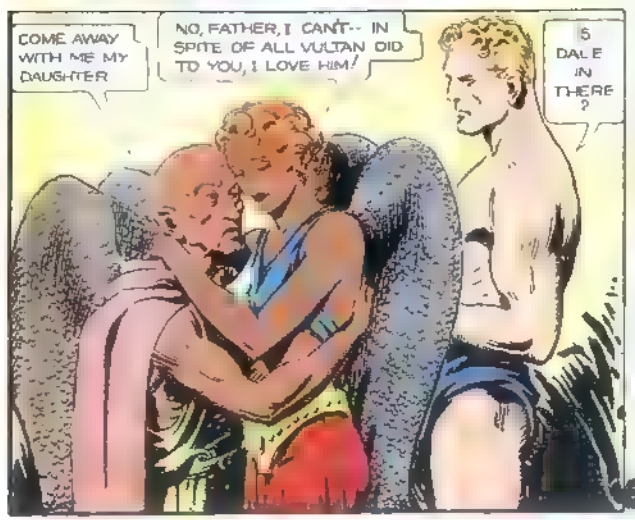

THIS WAY, QUICK! IF YOU'RE ENEMIES OF VULTAN, YOU'RE MY FRIENDS!
··AS HE DASHES TOWARD ONE OF THE PALACE TOWERS, A DOOR OPENS·····

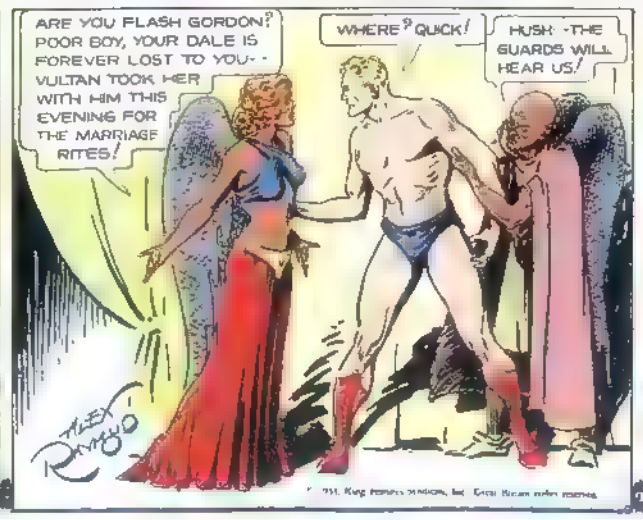

YOU ARE SAFE HERE···I, HANAK, BUILT THIS TOWER AND I, ALONE KNOW IT'S SECRETS····VULTAN BROKE ME ON THE TORTURE WHEEL, BUT I NEVER TOLD··· SOMEDAY I'LL GET MY REVENGE!
IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN RESCUE A GIRL FROM HIS SKYROOMS?


COME····· UP THIS SECRET PASSAGE IN THE WALLS·····

I WAS ONCE AS TALL AND STRONG AS YOU, YOUNG MAN···VULTAN BROKE MY BODY AND HEALTH, HE STOLE MY DAUGHTER LURA·····
YOUR CHANCE WILL COME, HANAK··· HURRY, DALE MAY BE IN DANGER RIGHT NOW!


PEERING FROM BEHIND A TAPESTRY IN THE SKYROOMS, HANAK SIGNALS TO LURA, WHO CAUTIOUSLY MAKES HER WAY OVER TO HIM·····


COME AWAY WITH ME MY DAUGHTER
NO, FATHER, I CAN'T··· IN SPITE OF ALL VULTAN DID TO YOU, I LOVE HIM!
IS DALE IN THERE?


ARE YOU FLASH GORDON? POOR BOY, YOUR DALE IS FOREVER LOST TO YOU··· VULTAN TOOK HER WITH HIM THIS EVENING FOR THE MARRIAGE RITES!
WHERE? QUICK!
HUSH! ·THE GUARDS WILL HEAR US!

I OVERHEARD THEM BEHIND THE TAPESTRY, CAPTAIN ··FLASH GORDON, LURA AND ANOTHER MAN ·····
HA! GOOD! WE'VE GOT HIM AT LAST···· I'LL HAVE EVERY EXIT GUARDED!
ONE OF VULTAN'S WIVES, JEALOUS OF LURA'S POSITION AS KING VULTAN'S FAVORITE, MAKES A BID FOR THE KING'S FAVOR!
TO BE CONTINUED

FLASH GORDON HAS FOUND HANAK, A VICTIM OF KING VULTAN'S CRUELTY, SO EAGER FOR REVENGE THAT HE SHOWS FLASH A SECRET PASSAGE TO THE HAREM SKYROOMS, SO THAT HE MAY RESCUE DALE ARDEN · BUT LURA, HANAK'S DAUGHTER, TELLS THEM THAT DALE IS IN VULTAN'S QUARTERS FOR THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY· ---THEY ARE OVERHEARD BY ANOTHER WIFE, WHO, JEALOUS OF LURA (VULTAN'S FAVORITE) BETRAYS THEM TO A GUARD --

I KNOW THE EARTHLING WAS HIDING BEHIND THIS TAPESTRY! WHERE IS HE NOW? TELL ME OR I WILL TELL THE KING ALL!

I DON'T KNOW BUT I DO KNOW THAT VULTAN WOULD TAKE MY WORD BEFORE YOURS!

WHEW THAT WAS CLOSE THAT SOLDIER ALMOST CAUGHT US · I HOPE THEY DON'T FIND THIS SECRET PASSAGE!

THIS LEADS TO THAT HALL OUTSIDE VULTAN'S CHAMBERS I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO GET ANY CLOSER OR I'D HAVE BLOWN HIM UP WITH THIS BOMB

EMERGING FROM A PANEL IN THE BACK OF A PILLAR, FLASH SEES THREE GUARDS AT VULTAN'S DOOR, ACROSS THE HALL---HE TAKES THE BOMB FROM HANAK · --

-----AND HURLS IT TO THE FAR END OF THE HALL---THE GUARDS RUSH TO INVESTIGATE THE EXPLOSION, LEAVING VULTAN'S DOOR UNGUARDED!

MEANTIME IN VULTAN'S CHAMBERS

COME, LITTLE BIRD, A KISS BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST ARRIVES!

AWAY FROM ME, YOU FAT FOOL!

IN A VIOLENT RAGE, KING VULTAN STRIKES DALE ACROSS THE FACE---SHE CRUMPLES TO THE FLOOR-------

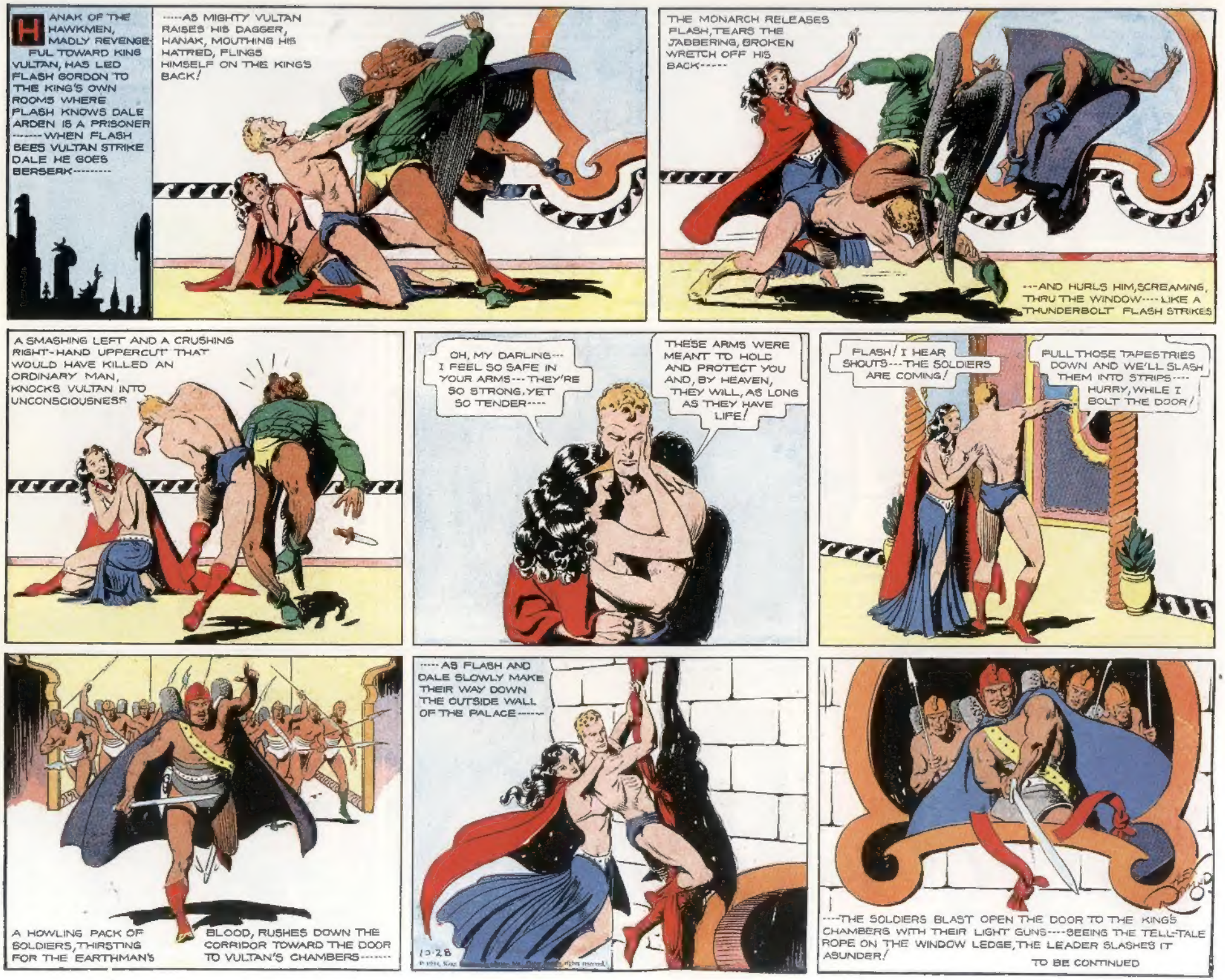
------AT THAT INSTANT FLASH LEAPS INTO THE ROOM AND, WITH A YELL OF FURY, DRIVES HIS FIST TO VULTAN'S JAW --

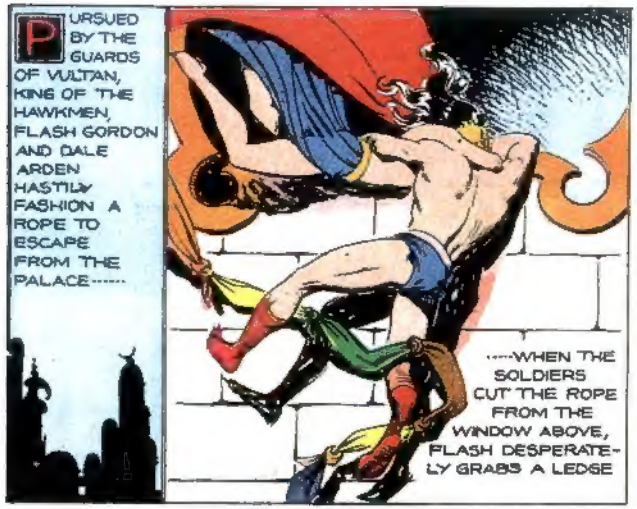
-----THE MIGHTY KING STAGGERS BACK AND, BELLOWING LIKE A MAD BULL, SINKS HIS STEEL-SINEWED FINGERS INTO FLASH'S THROAT· ---- HIS LEFT HAND REACHES FOR HIS DAGGER!

ALEX RAYMOND

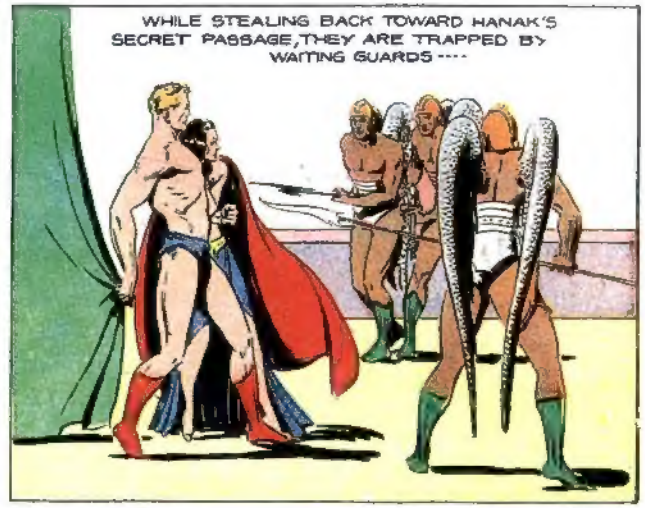
10 21

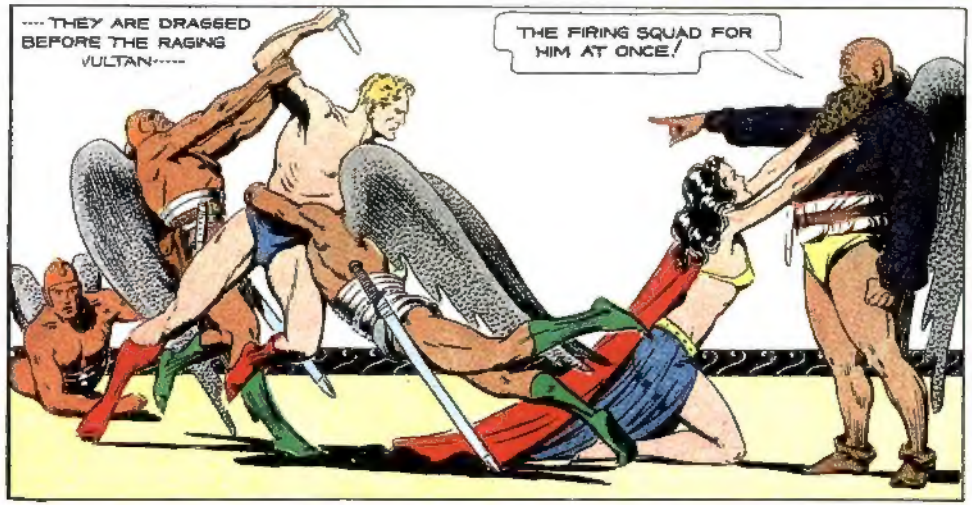
TO BE CONTD

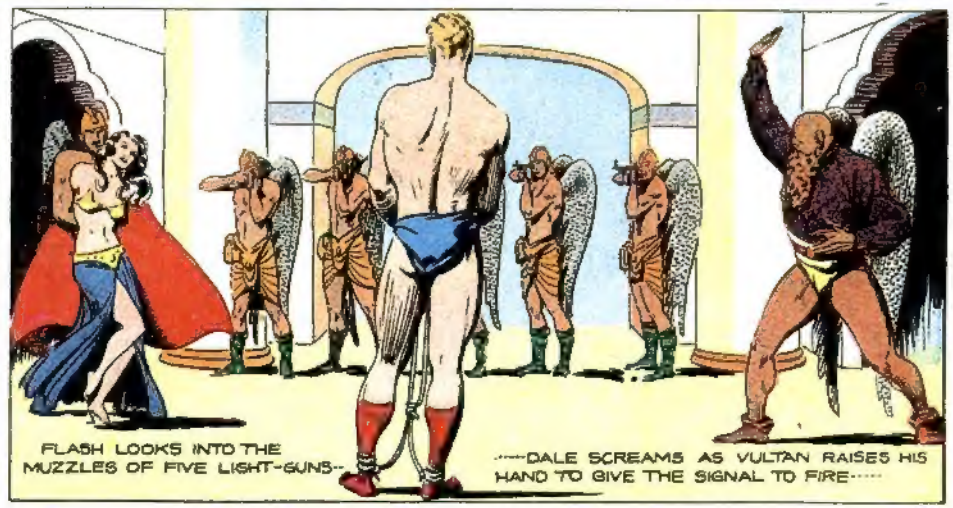

HANAK OF THE HAWKMEN, MADLY REVENGEFUL TOWARD KING VULTAN, HAS LED FLASH GORDON TO THE KING'S OWN ROOMS WHERE FLASH KNOWS DALE ARDEN IS A PRISONER ------WHEN FLASH SEES VULTAN STRIKE DALE HE GOES BERSERK---------
-----AS MIGHTY VULTAN RAISES HIS DAGGER, HANAK, MOUTHING HIS HATRED, FLINGS HIMSELF ON THE KING'S BACK!
THE MONARCH RELEASES FLASH, TEARS THE JABBERING, BROKEN WRETCH OFF HIS BACK-----
---AND HURLS HIM, SCREAMING, THRU THE WINDOW----LIKE A THUNDERBOLT FLASH STRIKES
A SMASHING LEFT AND A CRUSHING RIGHT-HAND UPPERCUT THAT WOULD HAVE KILLED AN ORDINARY MAN, KNOCKS VULTAN INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS
OH, MY DARLING--- I FEEL SO SAFE IN YOUR ARMS---THEY'RE SO STRONG, YET SO TENDER----
THESE ARMS WERE MEANT TO HOLD AND PROTECT YOU AND, BY HEAVEN, THEY WILL, AS LONG AS THEY HAVE LIFE!
FLASH! I HEAR SHOUTS---THE SOLDIERS ARE COMING!
PULL THOSE TAPESTRIES DOWN AND WE'LL SLASH THEM INTO STRIPS---- HURRY, WHILE I BOLT THE DOOR!
A HOWLING PACK OF SOLDIERS, THIRSTING FOR THE EARTHMAN'S BLOOD, RUSHES DOWN THE CORRIDOR TOWARD THE DOOR TO VULTAN'S CHAMBERS-------
-----AS FLASH AND DALE SLOWLY MAKE THEIR WAY DOWN THE OUTSIDE WALL OF THE PALACE-----
10-28
----THE SOLDIERS BLAST OPEN THE DOOR TO THE KING'S CHAMBERS WITH THEIR LIGHT GUNS----SEEING THE TELL-TALE ROPE ON THE WINDOW LEDGE, THE LEADER SLASHES IT ASUNDER!
TO BE CONTINUED


PURSUED BY THE GUARDS OF VULTAN, KING OF THE HAWKMEN, FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN HASTILY FASHION A ROPE TO ESCAPE FROM THE PALACE-----
----WHEN THE SOLDIERS CUT THE ROPE FROM THE WINDOW ABOVE, FLASH DESPERATELY GRABS A LEDGE

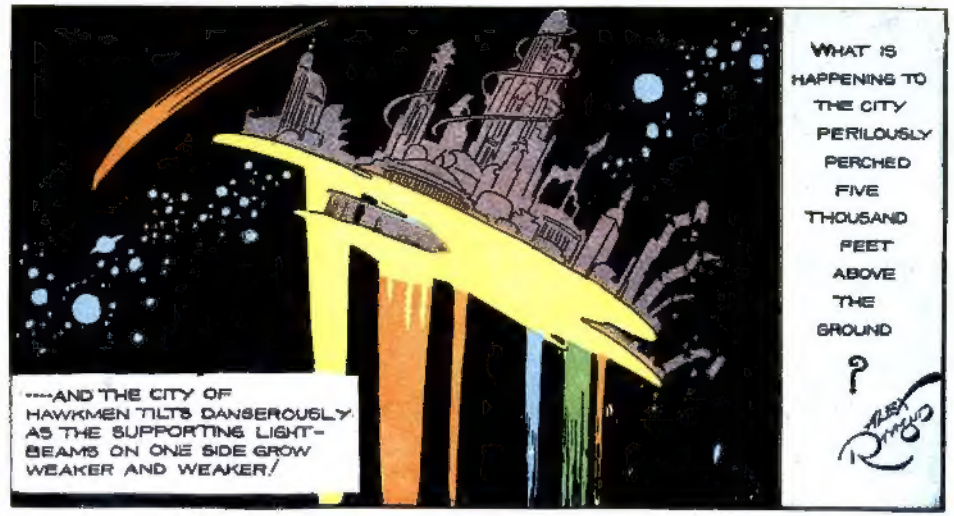
HE HAULS DALE AND HIMSELF BACK INTO THE PALACE----

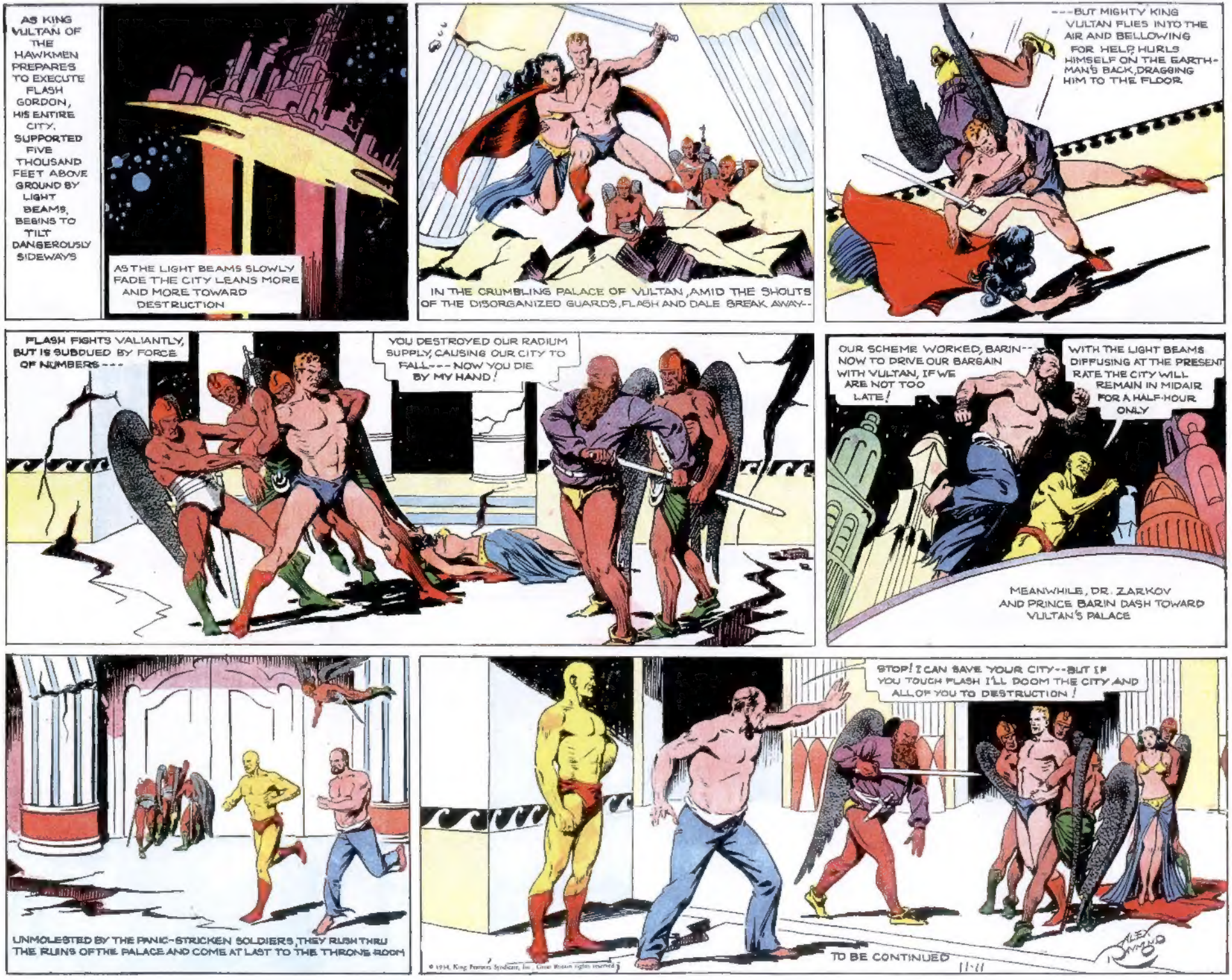

WHILE STEALING BACK TOWARD HANAK'S SECRET PASSAGE, THEY ARE TRAPPED BY WAITING GUARDS----

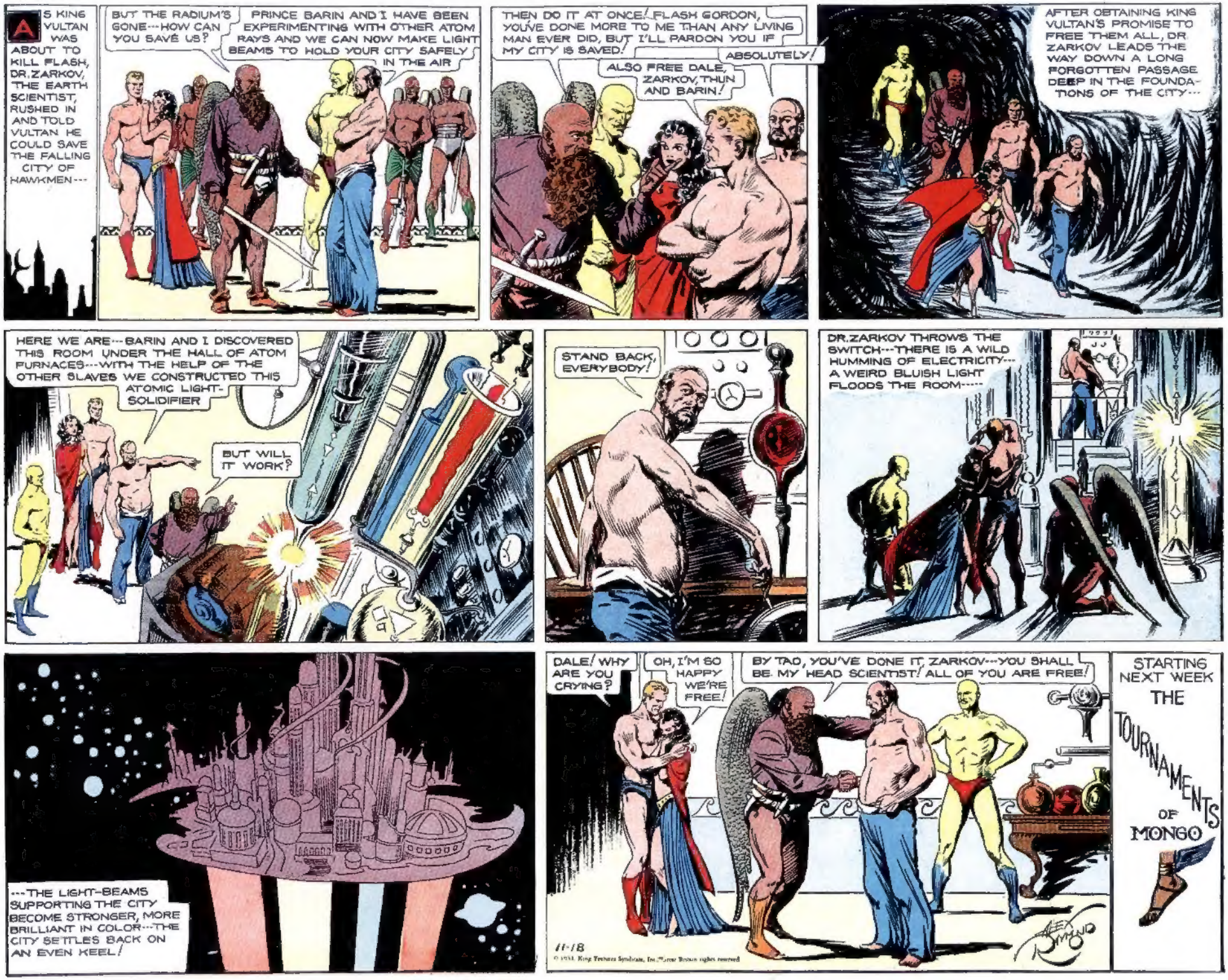

----THEY ARE DRAGGED BEFORE THE RAGING VULTAN-----
THE FIRING SQUAD FOR HIM AT ONCE!


FLASH LOOKS INTO THE MUZZLES OF FIVE LIGHT-GUNS--
-----DALE SCREAMS AS VULTAN RAISES HIS HAND TO GIVE THE SIGNAL TO FIRE-----

-----SUDDENLY, THERE IS A MIGHTY RUMBLING SOUND---THE FLOOR LURCHES AND SWAYS-----
-------THE LIGHTS GO OUT----SCREAMS AND GROANS FILL THE AIR-----


----AND THE CITY OF HAWKMEN TILTS DANGEROUSLY AS THE SUPPORTING LIGHT-BEAMS ON ONE SIDE GROW WEAKER AND WEAKER!
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE CITY PERILOUSLY PERCHED FIVE THOUSAND FEET ABOVE THE GROUND
?


AS KING VULTAN OF THE HAWKMEN PREPARES TO EXECUTE FLASH GORDON, HIS ENTIRE CITY, SUPPORTED FIVE THOUSAND FEET ABOVE GROUND BY LIGHT BEAMS, BEGINS TO TILT DANGEROUSLY SIDEWAYS
AS THE LIGHT BEAMS SLOWLY FADE THE CITY LEANS MORE AND MORE TOWARD DESTRUCTION
IN THE CRUMBLING PALACE OF VULTAN, AMID THE SHOUTS OF THE DISORGANIZED GUARDS, FLASH AND DALE BREAK AWAY--
---BUT MIGHTY KING VULTAN FLIES INTO THE AIR AND BELLOWING FOR HELP, HURLS HIMSELF ON THE EARTHMAN'S BACK, DRAGGING HIM TO THE FLOOR.
FLASH FIGHTS VALIANTLY, BUT IS SUBDUED BY FORCE OF NUMBERS ---
YOU DESTROYED OUR RADIUM SUPPLY, CAUSING OUR CITY TO FALL--- NOW YOU DIE BY MY HAND!
OUR SCHEME WORKED, BARIN-- NOW TO DRIVE OUR BARGAIN WITH VULTAN, IF WE ARE NOT TOO LATE!
WITH THE LIGHT BEAMS DIFFUSING AT THE PRESENT RATE THE CITY WILL REMAIN IN MIDAIR FOR A HALF-HOUR ONLY
MEANWHILE, DR. ZARKOV AND PRINCE BARIN DASH TOWARD VULTAN'S PALACE
UNMOLESTED BY THE PANIC-STRICKEN SOLDIERS, THEY RUSH THRU THE RUINS OF THE PALACE AND COME AT LAST TO THE THRONE-ROOM
STOP! I CAN SAVE YOUR CITY--BUT IF YOU TOUCH FLASH I'LL DOOM THE CITY AND ALL OF YOU TO DESTRUCTION!
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND
11-11


AS KING VULTAN WAS ABOUT TO KILL FLASH, DR. ZARKOV, THE EARTH SCIENTIST, RUSHED IN AND TOLD VULTAN HE COULD SAVE THE FALLING CITY OF HAWKMEN---
BUT THE RADIUM'S GONE---HOW CAN YOU SAVE US?
PRINCE BARIN AND I HAVE BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH OTHER ATOM RAYS AND WE CAN NOW MAKE LIGHT BEAMS TO HOLD YOUR CITY SAFELY IN THE AIR
THEN DO IT AT ONCE! YOU'VE DONE MORE TO ME THAN ANY LIVING MAN EVER DID, BUT I'LL PARDON YOU IF MY CITY IS SAVED!
FLASH GORDON,
ABSOLUTELY!
ALSO FREE DALE, ZARKOV, THUN AND BARIN!
AFTER OBTAINING KING VULTAN'S PROMISE TO FREE THEM ALL, DR. ZARKOV LEADS THE WAY DOWN A LONG FORGOTTEN PASSAGE DEEP IN THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE CITY---
HERE WE ARE---BARIN AND I DISCOVERED THIS ROOM UNDER THE HALL OF ATOM FURNACES---WITH THE HELP OF THE OTHER SLAVES WE CONSTRUCTED THIS ATOMIC LIGHT-SOLIDIFIER
BUT WILL IT WORK?
STAND BACK, EVERYBODY!
DR. ZARKOV THROWS THE SWITCH---THERE IS A WILD HUMMING OF ELECTRICITY---A WEIRD BLUISH LIGHT FLOODS THE ROOM-----
---THE LIGHT-BEAMS SUPPORTING THE CITY BECOME STRONGER, MORE BRILLIANT IN COLOR---THE CITY SETTLES BACK ON AN EVEN KEEL!
DALE! WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
OH, I'M SO HAPPY WE'RE FREE!
BY TAO, YOU'VE DONE IT, ZARKOV---YOU SHALL BE MY HEAD SCIENTIST! ALL OF YOU ARE FREE!
11-18
STARTING NEXT WEEK THE TOURNAMENTS OF MONGO